

BAY AREA REPORTER

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(Photo by Rick Gerhart)

Health March

The lead banner for the National Health March held Sunday, Sept. 2. Story, page 5.

Taped Phone Hate Message Threatens Gays, Mayor Agnos

by Dennis Conkin

A hate-filled home phone-answering device that attacks gays and suggests that the heterosexual white community should follow the late Dan White's example and "waste the mayor and take out a fag or two" is the subject of a police investigation, according to a spokesman for Mayor Art Agnos.

"This week's message is to all you butt-fuckers, cocksuckers, fudge packing AIDS carriers. I guess we pissed you little girls off last week," the tape said.

It is unclear what incident the tape is referring to. However, a gay bashing incident by four skinheads occurred

on Aug. 14 in front of Orphan Andy's restaurant in the Castro District.

Brandon Rosenberg and three other skinheads have been charged with felony assault with a deadly weapon in that incident and are in custody.

The tape continues with anti-gay, racist and anti-semitic comments, claiming a Zionist conspiracy against white people, and the announcer fondly recalling "the good old days" of daily gay bashings in San Francisco.

"It makes your skin crawl," said Scott Shafer, Mayor Agnos' press secretary. "It's appalling."

Shafer said that the tape

was under investigation "at the highest levels" within the San Francisco Police Department. Threats against public officials are a felony under federal law.

"I've heard a number of these hate messages, but this one is worse than usual," said Jill Tregor, program director for Community United Against Violence. "They've taken this a step further by saying that they think that people should be killed. It's dangerous."

According to Steve Maita, a spokesman for Pacific Bell, the phone company cannot regulate or censor phone answering machines.

(Continued on page 25)

Should The Baths Reopen in SF?

Compiled from staff and contributors' reports

The last bathhouse in San Francisco has been closed for more than three years now. Today, the City is one of the only major U.S. cities with a large gay population without an operating bathhouse.

In this special report, the *Bay Area Reporter* explores the questions: Should bathhouses be allowed to reopen in the City? Has shutting the bathhouses down reduced HIV transmission? Can bathhouses actually help save lives by informing customers about safe sex?

Gay bathhouses are open in more than 40 U.S. cities. Baths have closed in several cities during the past few years — Memphis, Cincinnati and Atlanta to name a few.

But today's bathhouses are much different than those found during San Francisco's gay community's decadent past. Today the focus is on health and fitness.

Health and elected officials seem to disagree about whether bathhouses should be allowed to re-establish a presence in San Francisco.

"I'm certainly not in favor of it," Board of Supervisors President Harry Britt told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We must do whatever we can to reduce the risk of HIV infection. Our first priority is to save lives. We have a whole new generation of young gay men, who don't need to be exposed."

Inside

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Dave Gilden, Karen Ocamb, Dennis Conkin, Jeff Boswell, Keith Clark and Allen White contributed to this report.

Lifestyle Changes

According to Britt, the incidence of new HIV infection is extremely low in the gay community, and there have been significant lifestyle changes among gays.

Former San Francisco Department of Public Health Director David Werdegard, who served in that position when the bathhouses were finally phased out, pointed out that the bathhouses were never shut down, but went out of business voluntarily after Judge Roy Wonder issued his ruling that the baths could reopen (they had been closed temporarily by previous San

(Continued on page 8)

Feinstein Unveils 8-Point AIDS Policy

by Keith Clark

A lobbying coalition of 15 AIDS agencies throughout California has prompted one of the two gubernatorial candidates to issue a major AIDS policy statement.

After repeated criticism in Northern California newspapers that neither candidate was addressing the state's most pressing health issue, Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Dianne Feinstein on Aug. 29 issued an eight-point AIDS plan for the state that she said she would implement if she's elected.

Feinstein, former mayor of San Francisco, revealed her long-sought-after plan at a

\$1,000-per-person and up fundraiser in Los Angeles aimed primarily at the gay and lesbian community.

The plan covers a broad spectrum of issues that AIDS activists and agencies have been increasingly lobbying for both here in the state and in Congress.

The Feinstein proposal includes:

- 1) working with Congress to ensure adequate funds for AIDS care, particularly early treatment intervention;
- 2) hastening availability of experimental drugs and greater access to clinical drug trials;
- 3) making AIDS anti-dis-



Diane Feinstein

crimination the "law of the land" in the state;

4) a review of MediCal payment rates for treatment and experimental drugs;

5) barring discrimination by insurance companies

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Neptune Society To Pay \$242,000

by Dennis Conkin

A Superior Court jury has awarded \$242,000 in damages to the lover and relatives of a gay man who died of AIDS in a suit against a local cremation society.

Patrick Hinrichsen, the lover of the late Robert Saari, who died in January 1985, received \$175,000. Saari's mother received \$62,500. His sister received \$5,000.

The damages were awarded Aug. 31 after the jury found that the Neptune Society had acted with malicious intent in resolving a dispute about the disposition of Saari's remains. The decision

opens the possibility of punitive damages against Neptune.

According to Tom Steel, Hinrichsen's attorney, Saari had arranged with his lover to have his ashes scattered at Point Reyes in a private ceremony following his death, but Hinrichsen never received the remains from Neptune.

"We were never 100 percent clear what happened to them. We were told that they'd been scattered at sea with a bunch of other people's remains, with a bunch of other people's ashes. They never provided the key evidence that proved the re-

(Continued on page 3)

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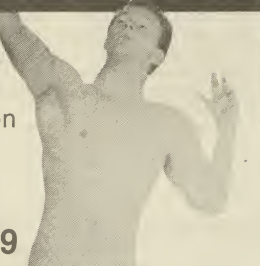
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Unrepentant Anita Bryant On the Comeback Trail

by Keith Clark

Anita Bryant, the erstwhile Florida Orange Growers spokeswoman and Bible-quoting opponent of gay rights, who's credited with "making 'gay' a household word," is on the career comeback trail.

Bryant remains unrepentant about her three-year battle in Dade County, Fla., during the late 1970s that erupted into a highly charged national debate over gays as a minority group.

After a decade of seclusion, the onetime popular singer and former Miss Oklahoma has just released a new record, her first in years, and published her seventh book. She has also just married Charlie Drye, a former NASA test pilot, and recently hosted the nationally syndicated Pat Robertson TV pro-

gram, the 700 Club.

The Dade County "Save Our Children" campaign that Bryant promoted to prevent gays and lesbians from holding teaching jobs there was the first recognized fight to the death between organized right-wing fundamentalists and gay rights activists in this country. It took three years and three elections before the dispute was finally resolved with Bryant's anti-gay cause going down to defeat.

During that period, Bryant arguably became the most hated individual among the nation's gay community for her sometimes vicious campaign. "Gays can't reproduce," Bryant said at one point during that campaign. "They have to recruit."

But the campaign wasn't the only thing she lost. Her career also came to an abrupt

end as she lost contract after contract because of her attack on the civil rights of gays and lesbians. The Florida Orange Growers dropped her as its spokesperson; a television show contract was canceled; she was dropped as a commentator on the televised Orange Bowl Game; and nightclub and recording contracts all disappeared.

In addition, her 20-year marriage came to an end, she says partly, because of the "strain" of her anti-gay crusade in Florida.

But Bryant still holds to her fundamentalist anti-gay beliefs and is not apologetic over the Dade County campaign. "Sometimes you have to pay a price for what you believe is right," she said on the Aug. 30 *Entertainment Tonight* show. "I don't regret

(Continued on page 5)



(Photo by: Rick Gerharter)

Bench Flap

A community controversy was quelled last week when Muni officials announced the benches at Castro Street Station are being replaced in routine maintenance. AIDS activists initially expressed concern they were being removed permanently.

'Life' Magazine's Top 100 List Includes Gays, Lesbians

by Keith Clark

Lifemagazine's just-published issue honoring the 100 most influential Americans of the 20th century includes, although without any mention of their sexuality, at least 11 gays, lesbians or bisexual individuals.

And of those, at least five of them acknowledged their non-heterosexual behavior during their lifetimes, indicating a greater degree of openness about non-mainstream sexual behavior than in perhaps any other time beforehand.

Among the 100 most influential are:

Composer-conductor Leonard Bernstein, a champion of contemporary American classical music, who is married but recently admitted his homosexuality.

Playwright Tennessee Williams, arguably the most influential dramatist born in this century.

George Balanchine, the famed Russian-born choreog-

rapher, who virtually revolutionized contemporary dance in this country.

Tennis champion Billie Jean King, whose acknowledged lesbian relationships more than a decade ago sent shock waves through the sports world and threatened to destroy her career.

Famed anthropologist Margaret Mead, whose field work and studies in Samoa and other isolated island cultures are now considered classics in the discipline.

Film actor Marlon Brando, who several years ago acknowledged his bisexuality.

Author Jack Kerouac, one of the pre-eminent writers of the post-World War II generation, who tried to rediscover America and in the process founded the beat generation.

Artist Andy Warhol, who considered himself an asexual during much of his adult life, but who acknowledged sexual contacts with other men.

American-born poet and literary critic T. S. Eliot — a recent biography identified

homosexual contacts he had at various times throughout his life.

Eleanor Roosevelt, indomitable wife of former President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who became perhaps as well-known a political figure in her own right and whose sexual relations with women have recently come to light.

And, of course, probably the best-known closet case in American history, former FBI director J. Edgar Hoover, who became at one point the most-feared government official in Washington.

A 12th individual on the list, who is widely rumored to be homosexual, has never addressed the issue one way or the other. And because libel laws in this country do not permit publication of that individual's name in this context without running the risk of a lawsuit, that 12th individual will have to go unidentified ... at least until he or she finds a bit more courage. ▼

Neptune

(Continued from page 1)

mains were scattered at sea," Steel said. "We've always felt uncomfortable about whether the remains were scattered at sea or some other mishap occurred."

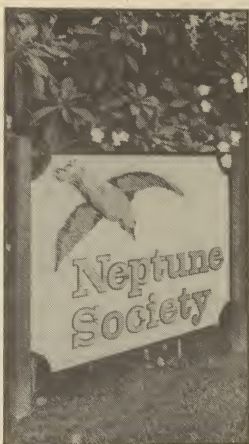
According to Steel, after Hinrichsen discovered the remains were missing, Neptune "tried to cover up that the wishes of the deceased had not been carried out."

Steel says that Richard Jongordon, then owner of Neptune, told Saari's mother and sister that the kind of memorial service that Hinrichsen had planned for Saari was "a wild party with a bunch of his friends" that involved drinking and that "Neptune had planned a more dignified service, including a minister."

According to Steel, Jongordon also told Saari's relatives that Hinrichsen was "too sick to attend" the service, intentionally implying to Saari's mother that he was ill with AIDS.

"He wasn't sick at all, it was all lies," Steel said.

Saari's elderly mother and sister live in the Midwest, and



Neptune Society's office in San Francisco

Steel says that Neptune's response to them was calculated to cause intentional distress, conjuring up the spectre of decadent memorial services, the stigma of a son dying of AIDS and an ill lover as well.

When Saari's mother asked Neptune for a death certificate, Jongordon provid-

ed her with one. In addition to the cause of death being listed as pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, Neptune scrawled AIDS in large letters across the death certificate.

Steel says that the various incidents indicate both an anti-gay bias and an attempt to intimidate Saari's relatives from pursuing a lawsuit.

According to James English, the attorney for the Neptune Society, the verdict will be appealed.

The suit was filed in late 1985. According to Steel, during jury selection, Neptune attorneys excluded, under pre-emptory challenge, all gay jurors from serving on the jury.

Although Jongordon later sold Neptune to a corporation, he remains the manager of the company.

The \$242,000 judgment was not the first awarded against the society. Neptune was the subject of a 1984 class-action lawsuit that charged it with dumping comingled human remains in a Sierra mountain lot instead of fulfilling its contractual obligations and providing individual memorialization and scattering. The suit was settled for \$32 million. ▼

Police Commission Upholds Suspension

by Dennis Conkin

The San Francisco Police Commission has unanimously upheld the two-day suspension of Homicide Inspector Frank McCoy for a May 1988 phone call to a gay activist who has since died of AIDS.

Chief of Police Frank Jordan ordered the suspension earlier this year, following a 1988 complaint by Bill Paul and other activists.

Then president of the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, Paul charged that McCoy's call concerning Paul's earlier complaint to the Office of Citizens Complaint concerning the department's investigation into the homicide of George Smoot, a 52-year-old aerospace engineer, was an attempt to intimidate him.

The Police Commission threw out the complaint that the investigation into Smoot's murder was inadequate.

Smoot was stabbed to death in November 1987 by Kali Smith, a 17-year-old next-door neighbor, who alleged that Smoot had at-

tempted to sexually assault his sister.

Smith also said that Smoot had previously attempted to sexually assault him. He was convicted of manslaughter.

Jordan ruled that the call was improper and undermined "public confidence" in the OCC investigatory process and was not made for the purpose of collecting evidence, but instead about the complaint.

In his appeal to the commission, McCoy's attorney, James Lassart, argued that McCoy's call was a legitimate part of a homicide investigation, as the credibility of the Smoot homicide investigation was being attacked and faced a possible challenge in court, because of a motion for a new trial filed by his killer's attorneys based on new evidence concerning Smoot.

Lassart said he would appeal the commission's decision to Superior Court. McCoy is a highly decorated 25-year veteran of the department. ▼

BAPHR Announces Granting Cycle

The BAPHR Foundation, the fundraising and grant-making arm of Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights, announces the beginning of its 1990 granting cycle. Grant applications will be accepted between Aug. 21 and Sept. 20. To qualify for consideration, an applicant must be 501(c)3 tax exempt or have a tax-exempt sponsor.

The foundation will consider grants for specific, clearly identified projects affecting gay and/or lesbian health and wellness issues within the nine counties of the San Francisco Bay Area. The foundation does not fund operating budgets (staff salaries, office expenses, etc.), endowments or clinical research projects. Grants cannot be made without an application.

For grand application forms, please write the BAPHR Foundation, P.O. Box 15005, San Francisco, CA 94115, or call 558-9353 or 346-7070. ▼

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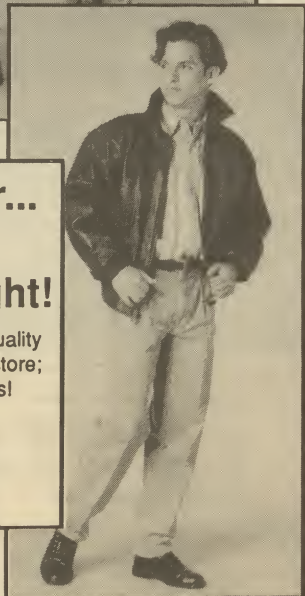
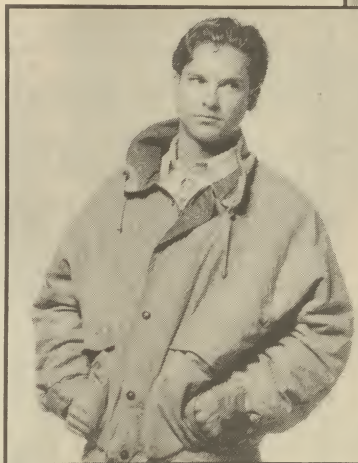
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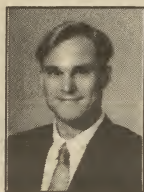
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Bringing It Home: Mobilizing AIDS Lobbyists

by Keith Clark



Paul Boneberg

Businesses, industry associations and citizen groups are discovering a new kind of lobbying effort that is taking the congressional influence game to legislators when they escape — or try to escape — the high-pressured halls of Congress for their generally low-key offices back home.

While "targeted" lobbying of key representatives and senators in their home offices isn't entirely unknown, the large-scale, concerted lobbying effort aimed at Congress members back home that lobbyists have launched this year is something new in the campaign to make friends and influence legislators.

Ironically, two of the leading-edge efforts now underway during the current recess on Capitol Hill come from groups unlikely to be associated in any other fashion except for the coincidence of using similar techniques at the same time: the San Francisco-based Mobilization Against AIDS and the Philip Morris Co., the tobacco and beer giant currently being boycotted by AIDS activists over its support of Sen. Jesse Helms.

Quite by chance, both Mobilization and Philip Morris began campaigns to continue their very different lobbying efforts back home during the current August recess. But there all resemblances end.

For Mobilization the effort is aimed at a specific set of California representatives who hold key positions in House committees crucial to AIDS-related legislation.

Organized earlier this year,

the direct lobbying effort is actually an informal association of some 15 California AIDS agencies: AIDS Project/Los Angeles, Alameda County Advisory Board, ARIS Project of San Jose, Coachella Valley AIDS Consortium in Palm Springs, Coalition for Compassion in Los Angeles, Inland AIDS Project in San Bernardino County, Long Beach AIDS Network, the Los Angeles-based Minority AIDS Project, Sacramento AIDS Foundation, San Diego AIDS Project, Santa Cruz AIDS Project, along with San Francisco's AIDS Foundation, Project Inform and, of course, Mobilization.

Paul Boneberg, executive director of Mobilization Against AIDS, said, "These groups are chosen principally for their geographic diversity with a specific emphasis in getting the groups that serve the congressional districts of

the most important members of Congress from California, so it's very blatantly geographically biased. There was no effort to get necessarily the most important groups, to get every group in every county or anything like that. It's extremely pragmatic; it's *realpolitik*."

The reason for targeting the California congressional delegation is simple: it is the most potent force in the House of Representatives, particularly in budget and finance areas where it holds collectively more seats than any other state.

California has five seats on the House Appropriations Committee, Reps. Dixon, Fazio, Lewis, Lowery and Roybal, more than any other state's House delegation. On the Ways and Means Committee, the state has three seats; Reps. Matsui, Stark, chairman of the subcommittee on health; and Thomas, with only Illinois, New York and Texas holding as many. And on the powerful House Budget Committee, the state holds five seats, Reps. Beilenson, Berman, Boxer, Thomas and Panetta, chairman of the committee, more than any other state.

Boxer, of course, heads the committee's budget task force on health and social services. In addition, Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Los Angeles) chairs the Health and Labor subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, the main House authorizing arm.

(Continued on page 14)

Lack of Health Care Slammed In Belskus Memorial March

by Allen White

Seven hundred people marched down Market Street Sept. 2 to protest the government's unwillingness to make health care a priority. The march was as much a tribute to John Belskus as it was an activist statement.

Belskus, a person with AIDS who died earlier this year, was one of the community's strongest spokespersons for the disenfranchised and for people with AIDS. He, along with several others, chained himself to the doors of the old Federal Building on Oct. 27, 1985, and by that act created what is now the ARC/AIDS Vigil in the United Nations Plaza.

Before he died Belskus said he wanted a march for decent health care on Labor Day weekend. Last Sunday, his friends made his dream a reality.

His cohorts from the ARC/AIDS Vigil took leadership roles in the march. "He would be so happy. He would probably be in tears because he worked so hard during his life to get things done, not only for himself, but for everyone else," said Fred McClure.

McClure is the owner of an American flag, which he has

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National Health Care March drew about 700 participants.

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

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EDITORIAL

Let the Baths Reopen

Gay bathhouses should be allowed to open and operate in San Francisco. Times have changed. The bath scene has changed. Gay men are more aware of how HIV is transmitted and the safeguards against it than they were in the mid-1980s. And they are much more responsible.

The gay community in San Francisco and in other major U.S. cities has drastically reduced the number of new AIDS cases because of this responsibility.

That is true here, where the baths have been closed since 1987, and in other cities, where the baths have operated unfettered and uninterrupted throughout the epidemic.

Many health officials believe that bathhouses provide a forum for educating gay men about AIDS and how it can be prevented. Peer pressure and monitoring within bathhouses encourage safe sex. Post-bar sex, usually private, can offer more dangerous temptations.

Today's bathhouses provide more than simply opportunities to engage in sex. They offer an alternative space, outside the bars, where gay men can meet and interact socially. Some serve as fitness centers, complete with jacuzzis, weights, swimming pools and saunas. Many offer weekend social activities, including barbecues.

In San Francisco, gay men are being denied this option. However, if you can stand a little inconvenience, you can drive to Berkeley or San Jose, where baths are still open.

It is ironic that Rep. William Dannemeyer introduced a bill in 1985 that would have cut off federal revenue sharing funds to cities that refused to shut down all gay bathhouses. Dannemeyer's obviously anti-gay motive doomed the bill. Although Dannemeyer's bill failed, we follow his wishes in San Francisco today.

It is further ironic that bathhouses are still operating in such conservative bastions as Dallas, the nation's conservative, Republican, good ole boy capital, and Salt Lake City, home of the Mormons.

In 1982 the Rev. Jerry Falwell called the bathhouses vile places. In San Francisco the bathhouses remain closed because of the homophobia concealed behind an unsubstantiated argument that baths spread AIDS.

Many people in the straight community want all gay sex stamped out. They don't want to accept the fact that gay men have sex. Opposition to the bathhouses can be linked in part to this prejudice.

It's time for San Francisco's gay community to realistically consider the issue of whether the baths should be allowed to reopen, putting aside all irrationality and inhibitions.

We are responsible human beings, entitled to freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution. This is San Francisco, not Selma.

The baths closed in the mid-1980s because we didn't know much about AIDS at the time. And the baths back then, espe-



Dr. Mervyn Silverman signs the proclamation closing the bathhouses.

(Photo: Rink)

cially in San Francisco, were places that encouraged high-risk, multiple-partner sex.

Probably it was a good thing they were closed. But the slings have now been replaced with Nautilus equipment.

Health officials in San Francisco should provide documentation showing whether or not keeping the bathhouses closed is actually reducing HIV transmission. We should compare HIV-infection and other sexually transmitted disease rates in San Francisco with the ones in cities where baths never closed.

Health officials who argue that baths are nesting grounds for AIDS snub their noses at health officials in cities such as Chicago, Fort Lauderdale, Seattle and Houston. Their experience deserves consideration in this debate. We are not isolated from the national community and cannot afford to be isolationist in our public policy. ▼

GUEST OPINION

No Health Care Cuts

The following is an open letter to our supervisors and legislators. I urge that the drastic cuts being considered in the health budget be carefully thought out before you vote. As a legislator and a "voice of the people," there are many thousands of people depending on your thoughtful judgment.

I am a citizen and a taxpayer. I am also a member of the board of directors of Baker Places and president of the community advisory board of Acceptance Place and Baker New Place. I am very concerned about what will happen to the people we serve in our programs if the cuts being considered are actually implemented.

Will these people be added to the thousands already living on our streets and in our parks? Added to the already overburdened welfare rolls? Never have the opportunity to be well enough physically or emotionally from their alcohol or drug addiction to really understand and enjoy recovery from their disease?

And what about those people (most of those afflicted) who would choose to be working, productive members of the community again? Won't we give them a chance — an opportunity begin to feel like worthwhile citizens again? What about the jobs of dedicated people who work in the health care system?

Someone has to be the one to say, "I'll do it! I'll be the one to help this homeless person, this person with alcohol or drug addiction, this person with AIDS or ARC, this person with mental illness or other problems."

We cannot "pass the buck" any longer. We cannot shut the door on them again. How many of us have had a brother or sister, lover, spouse or other close family member need the services of our health system? How many of us have had to use these services ourselves?

The health care of our community (our health care) is at stake here. The cuts being considered are a very serious threat to each and every one of us. I urge you to be humane and give careful consideration to each line on the budget, keeping in mind that you or a loved one may not be able to get the services needed at a crucial time if they're not available.

I have no concrete answer as to where cuts could be made in other areas of the budget, but I do feel that we must take a good look at our priorities. Even with the numbers of people the health care system manages to help today, there are many thousands who are unable to get the help they need, even at a minimum care level. We're talking about basics here.

We may as taxpayers have to look at other ways of raising revenue (tax increases). This is not something we like to consider, but it may be necessary at this time.

Also, I'd like to see concerned persons write to our supervisors and state legislators. We must at the very least maintain health services at the current level — we cannot be cut!

—Ann West

LETTERS

Asshole Assertions

★ According to your writer Warren Sonbert, (B.A.R., Aug. 16), I am an insufferably smug moron, a member of the trendy mob that mistakes mean-spiritedness for profundity and a contemporary idiot who thinks I'm terminally hip.

My unpardonable crime? I disagree with Sonbert's opinion of David Lynch's new film, *Wild at Heart*. I thought that it was, while not on a par with Lynch's classic *Blue Velvet*, an oasis of audacious and enthralling film-making in a desert of Hollywood summer "product." Sonbert detested the film.

And that, in itself, is perfectly fine. I'm always happy to read an intelligent review with a viewpoint that disagrees with mine. Sometimes, such a review will even cause me to re-evaluate my own opinion.

However, Sonbert did not write an intelligent review. Instead, he slapped together a string of *ad hominem* attacks on Lynch and his fans, garnished it with irrelevant attacks on Heathers and *Twin Peaks*, and topped the whole thing off by spitefully revealing the film's ending. (I'm glad I waited to read the review until after I saw the film!)

It has been said that "opinions are like assholes — everybody's got one." If Sonbert wants to write that his asshole is better than everyone else's, that's fine. If you want to print these assertions, that's fine, too. However, please don't call them film criticism.

Steve Omlid
San Francisco

The Company We Keep

★ Thanks a million for the great piece on one of my all-time heroes, Ethyl Eichelberger. What a man! What a woman! The two best things I saw on Ethyl were in the B.A.R. and the *New York Times*. Not bad company.

John Henry Cavanaugh
San Francisco

Dignity and Grace

★ As many of your readers know, I was one of the two contenders in the Males 60 and Over category in the physique competition at Gay Games III. Because most of us have been conditioned to believe what we read in the papers, it appears that many people, even some who know me well, accepted the portrayal in Dave Studach's letter (B.A.R., Aug. 23) of my behavior on stage, following the mixup in the awards presentation, as factual.

Mr. Studach wrote, in part, that I "... strutted about initially refusing to turn over the gold medal." His statement suggests that I paraded around the stage wearing the gold medal and that I wouldn't give it up when someone first asked me to relinquish it. None of this happened.

Mr. Studach's falsehood regarding my deportment is consistent with a story being told around town that apparently originated with a bodybuilder who purports to have been an eyewitness but who, as many people know, was not. I read Mr. Studach's letter with disbelief because until it appeared I had been aware of nothing but compliments for the way I coped with what for me was a momentarily shattering, embarrassing and emotion-charged situation.

Many people came up to me with nice things to say about my behavior during the week, but it was a woman athlete, whom I know only by sight, who, at the closing ceremonies, made the comment that perhaps was most reassuring and meaningful to me. After offering congratulations for the silver medal I was wearing, she told me she was sorry for what happened (at the awards presentation), but that I had handled the situation with "dignity and grace." That was what I had tried to do, and I thank her, whoever she is, for saying the words.

Knowing that I realized my fantasy, that I performed well, meant far more to me than the color of any medal ever could.

Keith Thomas
San Francisco

Closet Commitment

The following letter was sent to the Commitment to Life IV, chairs of AIDS Project Los Angeles.

★ In looking over the ill-conceived list of notables chosen to promote APLA's Commitment to Life, we noticed a startling number of closet-case celebs listed alongside some of Hollywood's most notorious homophobes. Is this an AIDS fund-raiser or a monument to showbiz self-hatred? The internalized homophobia oozing from some of these Tinsel Town elite — not to mention their

fag-bashing clients — is as deadly as AIDS.

While we applaud Ian McKellan and the courageous work he does for the cause in the U.K., it is sadly revealing that APLA had to trudge 8,000 miles from L.A. to ferret out an openly gay actor to honor.

Commitment to Life! Honey, next year call it what it really is: Commitment to the Closet.

James Carroll Pickett
Michael Kearns
Artists Confronting AIDS

Doctor in the House?

★ I looked forward to reading about the San Francisco Gay Film Festival in June as we were getting some of the films in Los Angeles in July. But when I read your critic Warren Sonbert's reviews for insight into the gay perspectives of other countries, I was shocked as well as insulted by his narrow viewpoint. These films couldn't be that bad, and after seeing them in the LA festival, I realized how off Sonbert was.

Then came his *Ghost* review and again he really misses the mark. What I thought would be another Hollywood cop-out product turned out to be a very sensitive film that dealt not only with romance, but karma and the other side.

I worked for the San Francisco Film Festival for years, and was director of publicity for FILMEX, the original LA film exposition. One of the joys of a film festival is to look forward to seeing other countries' viewpoints on familiar situations such as being gay, whether it appears to be outdated to us or not. Some countries just don't move as fast as others, so film gives us a barometer reading as to some social and political happenings.

Obviously, Sonbert wants all filmmakers to see everything from his perspective especially on gay life. But what is found in his reviews is such intense self-hatred, it's incredible. Sonbert may not realize it, but reading his material only indicates such, and it's frightening that a paper such as the B.A.R. doesn't recognize this.

To pick through each film and search for anti-gay motives and references without doing what a good critic is supposed to do, which is give the reader viewing guidelines so they can make up their own mind, is itself an illness. I can see Sonbert foaming at the mouth as he views any film, hoping that his bad self-image is once again reflected so he can warn others.

As for *Ghost*, Sonbert only has to listen to the final lines of Patrick Swayze as he passes on, a speech anyone affected by AIDS would recognize as an affirmation of life. He says that the love received on earth is taken with you and that is the blessing.

Sonbert should have noted that as a good, gay critic, instead of lambasting this very informative and sensitive film. He could begin to recognize the lack of love within him toward his gay self before it devours him and takes the community he writes for with him. You need a shrink, Sonbert, and fast.

Ken Dickmann
Los Angeles

★ ★ ★

Mr. Sonbert replies:

Hallo, Dickmann!!!

To paraphrase Addison De Witt, I leave your fantasies about "karma" and "the other side" to you and Louisa May Alcott. I suspect, Dickmann, from your saccharine sensibility that the film fest flick you were keen on was the late, unlamented East Germany's *Coming Out*. This ordeal shares with *Ghost* a similar earnest sentimentality, a workout ripe for your tear glands.

You bawl at a bad movie, Dickmann, and then fascistically deem anyone who disagrees with you a self-hater. I'm sure you fight back the sobs at Hallmark greeting cards, too.

And thanks for the pep talk on "what a critic should be." I've learned of late that everyone has an opinion on film, but only encompassing the social issues.

I attacked the casual homophobia of *Ghost* (just as insidious as the active kind) as a lynchpin to hang other summer movies' akin snideries. But *Ghost* is independently a bad movie because of camera placement and editing. No one takes a book reviewer to task when language is dissected, but people still regard film as plot and only plot — film theatre.

You can retain your delusions, Dickmann, about my "hating" the films of the gay film festival (in actuality, I reviewed about half of the programs and endorsed more than half of those), about my "self-hate" (I'm afraid, if anything, the opposite is the case) and about what treacherous illusions you desire to flicker across the screen. But remember that they are delusions.

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Baths

(Continued from page 1)

Francisco DPH Director Dr. Mervyn Silverman) if doors were removed from private rooms and there were monitors.

"I was prepared to move against one bathhouse after investigation [showed] that it was in violation of the court order and that unsafe sex was occurring on the premises," Werdegard said. "There was a negotiated settlement with the city attorney and the bathhouse was allowed to close rather than be shut down, because the owners wanted to go out of business."

Werdegard said that unsafe sex in bathhouses was an "extremely serious" public health issue at the time.

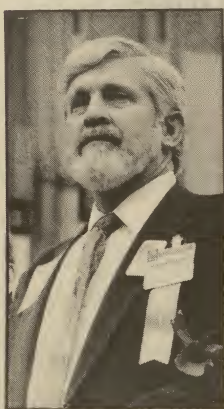
A safe-sex survey announced at the Sixth International AIDS Conference in June has had a major impact on AIDS specialists' attitudes toward gay bathhouses.

The study, whose chief author was Ron Stall of UC San Francisco's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, covered behavior in the city from 1984 to 1988 and found that 19 percent of the gay men questioned reported "relapsing" into "high-risk" sex (that is, "unprotected anal intercourse with a non-monogamous partner") after having only safe sex the previous year.

"The exclusive concern with the adoption of safe-sex methods has become somewhat dated. ... Prevention campaigns must now include additional efforts to prevent relapse from already established behavioral risk reductions," Stall reported.

Unsafe Sex Relapse

In response to the growing concern about sex practice relapse, the American Foundation for AIDS Research announced during the AIDS Conference that it was awarding \$145,000 to gay-oriented organizations wanting to work on the issue.



Mervyn Silverman

Explaining the reason for the grants, AmFAR President Mervyn Silverman said, "I think the gay community did an outstanding job in the early-to-mid '80s to educate its members about preventing the sexual transmission of HIV. But somewhere along the way, some men began to slip, placing themselves and their sexual partners at risk."

AmFAR's money will go to subsidize the creation of a National Relapse Prevention Network as well as for educational campaigns in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Silverman resides in San Francisco and was the director of the city's Department

(Continued on page 13)

Bathhouse Chronology

Compiled by Keith Clark

December 1982 — Supervisor Wendy Nelder, asked what the most important thing she could do for the gay community over the next few years responds, "Clean up the drinking water. That's more important to gays than domestic partner benefits (which she voted against) or rent control or anything. We have so much asbestos and carcinogens in the water, and I think this is what's causing all of the hepatitis and gay cancer (AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma). It's not the lifestyle, or any of the other causes attributed to spreading it. It's the drinking water."



Carol Ruth Silver

March 1983 — At a meeting with health officials and community and political leaders to discuss the growing crisis of AIDS, Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver says that if, as health authorities have begun to strongly suspect, the virus is spread through the exchange of bodily fluids, the city's Health Department should get a court order to close the gay bathhouses. She is booed for the statement.

May 1983 — Suffering from a loss in business, the Hothouse, one of the city's most popular after-hours sex clubs shuts down May 31.

June 1983 — Dr. Mervyn Silverman, director of Health, orders bathhouses and sex clubs in the city to display safe-sex posters in their establishments. Reports in the daily papers and on TV news suggest Dr. Silverman may be planning to shut down the city's gay baths and sex clubs. As a result of his order for the baths and clubs to post signs, reporters persist in asking if he has the legal power to shut down the baths if they didn't comply. Silverman says he does have that power, and the press had a field day.

June 1983 — Toklas Political Action Chair Law Wilson is publicly disavowed by the officers and members of the club because he helped organized a meeting of gay community leaders and bathhouse/sex club owners about community AIDS education in the baths. Milk Democratic Club AIDS Committee Co-chairs Catherine Cusic and Mark Virga are both publicly criticized during a club meeting for suggesting safe-sex signs be posted and brochures made available at the baths.

July 1983 — An article in the July issue of *California* magazine accuses California gay leaders of covering up vital public health information about AIDS. The article, entitled "White-wash," causes a furor among politically active lesbians and gays in the City principally over remarks attributed to Milk Club Health Services Co-chair Catherine Cusic, who is quoted as saying, "There are leaders in this community who don't want people to know the truth. Their attitude is that it is bad for business, bad for the gay image. The whole thing borders on the homicidal. ... Some of those responsible are gay leaders. In my mind they're criminally negligent. They've betrayed their own community." The article names Pat Norman, then director of gay/lesbian health services for the City's Health Department, and Randy Stallings, then president of the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club. The most serious accusation against Norman and Stallings in the piece is that the two had entered into a "conspiracy of silence" to suppress research that indicated 1 out of every 333 single men in the Castro district had AIDS. The allegation was based on an article by *San Francisco Chronicle* AIDS reporter Randy Shilts earlier in March revealing the results of the study, which was marked "Confidential" but had been leaked to him from within the Health Department. Both Norman and Stallings — along with one of the authors of the study — had apparently tried to convince Shilts not to write a story on the study, saying they were concerned a sensational news report on the controversial study would cause an anti-gay "panic."

July 1983 — After nearly a decade in operation, the first actual bathhouse to fall victim to the AIDS panic in San Francisco was, ironically, the straight/bi Suro Baths on Folsom Street, now the location of the gay nightclub Colossus. The asking price for the building was \$700,000 plus \$200,000 for the business itself.

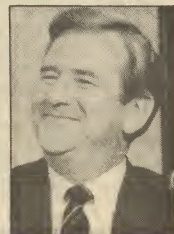
August 1983 — In the August issue of *The New Republic*, senior editor Charles Krauthammer wrote: "If the bathhouse issue were freed from the political uses to which it has been put by homophobes, and from the political symbolism with which it has been endowed by radical gay activists, it might be easier for the gay community to close the bathhouses to save lives. One would hope that the issue could be de-ideologized and left to the judgment of the affected community. But that is not likely to happen." Krauthammer's suggestion was certainly less sanguine than that of L. Davis Almand, a gay employee of the San Francisco Police Department, who suggested the following proposals in the July issues of "San Francisco Policeman": "Close the bathhouses and (sex) clubs, quarantine all AIDS patients, establish national and international computer banks to monitor the whereabouts of all AIDS patients, and tightly restrict immigration."

September 1983 — Moral Majority leader Jerry Falwell brings his AIDS hysteria campaign to Los Angeles demanding that the government shut down all gay bathhouses and arrest gay men who donate blood. Falwell said of the baths, "Every possible type of vulgar, bloody, sadistic thing goes on. ... I think it's a very small sacrifice to ask gays to curb that kind of sub-animal behavior for their own sake."

November 1983 — As patronage at gay men's baths and sex clubs in the City continues to slacken, The Catacombs, a popular South of Market club, announces parties for women on alternating Friday nights in an attempt to bolster attendance. Lesbians stay away in droves, and the parties are soon forgotten.

March 1984 — Outgoing Executive Director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Rick Crane, says about talk of closing the baths: "Absolutely, positively not. It isn't where you do it, it is what you do. The problem isn't the bathhouses, it is with peo-

(Continued on page 20)



Jerry Falwell

GOP's Lungren No Friend of Gays

When it comes to gay and lesbian issues, San Francisco District Attorney Arlo Smith, the Democratic nominee, clearly has it all over his Republican opponent, former Orange County Congressman Daniel Lungren.

Smith has been a longtime supporter of gay issues; Lungren, a conservative, has no record of ever having been supportive of our causes.

Republican Lungren's record while a member of the House of Representatives deserves a close look.

Few members of the House can point to a more anti-gay record when it comes to AIDS issues: In 1986 Lungren voted against increased funding for AIDS research, and he was one of only 68 members of the entire House to vote against the establishment of the National Commission on AIDS.

Lungren later voted to overturn legislation enacted by the District of Columbia that prohibits insurers in the district from discriminating against individuals who are HIV-positive.

A political ally of notoriously anti-gay Rep. William Dannemeyer, Lungren supported the Dannemeyer amendment to the Homeless Assistance Act to require AIDS testing of all care recipients, showing that he is in favor of compulsory testing for all hospital patients and marriage license applicants.

While a member of Congress, Lungren voted against legal services for gays and lesbians, a move that would prevent the Legal Services Corp. from helping gays and lesbians pursue their rights in the courts, and he supported the notorious Helms amendment, which would have prohibited the use of federal funds to provide AIDS education and prevention material.

In contrast, Arlo Smith can point to a solid record of support to gays and lesbians. As San Francisco district attorney, Smith led the fight against hate crimes, which are only too often directed at gays and lesbians. He established a Street Assault Unit, headed, in fact, by an openly gay deputy district attorney, to investigate and prosecute hate crimes.

Perpetrators of hate crimes have tried to justify violence against gays and lesbians by claiming that their victim was making sexual advances. Smith created a special training program to teach his attorneys how to fight this spurious defense.

Smith is committed to maintaining the Commission on Racial, Ethnic, Religious and Minority Violence, which recommends ways of combating hate crimes.

He points to the fact that he was the first district attorney to hire openly gay and lesbian attorneys and investigators, actually creating a lesbian/gay outreach program to recruit them.

Smith said that as attorney general he would continue his commitment to hiring gays and lesbians and placing them in supervisory positions.

Smith has always been a strong supporter of AB 1, which would prevent employment discrimination based on sexual orientation.



Dan Lungren

In 1983 a San Francisco landlord refused to rent to a lesbian/gay organization. Smith was outraged. He filed and won the first lawsuit based on the San Francisco ordinance prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Smith is a public official who has consistently opposed discrimination against people with AIDS. He supports legislation to reiterate that California law protects people with AIDS and HIV from employment discrimination.

As DA, Smith sued Health-America, an HMO that was trying to deny insurance applications to San Franciscans because it did not want to insure people who might have AIDS.

Smith is committed to AIDS research and will fight to ensure that drugs to combat the disease are made more widely available.

The difference between Smith and Lungren on women's rights is equally as glaring. Lungren opposes the right to choose, even in cases of rape or incest.

While in Congress, Lungren voted against the Equal Rights Amendment.

Smith points to his lifelong commitment to women's rights. Throughout his career, he has been an outspoken advocate of a woman's right to reproductive choice. This is one race that clearly points out the difference between the two candidates. Given the record, it is difficult to see how even gay and lesbian Republicans could cast a vote for Lungren.

Insurance Bias Barred

Before adjourning, the Legislature sent Gov. George Deukmejian a bill that would bar insurance companies from refusing to sell health coverage to people because they are gay.

State law prohibits a life or disability insurer from discriminating in eligibility or rates on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin. AB 1721 would add a prohibition against discrimination because of sexual orientation.

Supporters of the bill said it was necessary because the spread of AIDS has led to insurance discrimination against gays.

Politics and People

How about the U.S. Navy? Vice Admiral Joseph Donnell, the commander of the Navy's surface Atlantic fleet, admits that lesbian sailors are "among the command's top performers," but insists that the Navy kick them out any-

way. (Are Reps. Barbara Boxer and Nancy Pelosi going to be heard from on this one?)

The S.F. chapter of the National Women's Political Caucus has endorsed Bill Maher, Carole Migden, Jose Medina, Kevin Shelley and Doris Ward for supervisor.

President Bush will be in town Wednesday to campaign for fellow Republican Pete Wilson via a \$1,000 per person luncheon at the Fairmont.

Meanwhile, Wilson's opponent, Dianne Feinstein won the endorsement last week of the powerful California Abortion Rights Action League.

Dirty politics: Republican attorney general candidate Daniel Lungren's television ad attacking opponent Arlo Smith is being trashed by just about everyone: KRON-TV attacked it; the *Examiner* editorially called the TV spot "a cheap shot"; and the *Sacramento Bee*, in an editorial entitled "Lungren's Tar Ball," suggests the GOP candidate "is not qualified to be attorney general."

Even some GOP political strategists are said to be worried the ad might backfire and are suggesting Lungren stop running it.

One of my favorite people, David Webb, wants you to know he is having a reception today, Sept. 6, from 5:30-7:30, at the Giraffe on Polk Street so you can meet his candidate for supe, Carole Migden. The buffet they put on is worth attending alone, so drop by and meet a probable winner, and I'll see you there. ▼

Yes on K Registration Drive

by Dennis Conkin

Yes on Prop K will kick-off a voters registration and absentee ballot drive on Sept. 8 targeting people with AIDS who want to vote but are unable to make it to the polls.

"People with AIDS want to be included in making decisions about our community," said Jean Harris, an aide to Supervisor Harry Britt. "I talked with one man who wanted to vote last year, but his attendants forgot to make sure that he had an absentee ballot. He was devastated. We want to make sure that everyone has a voice."

According to Harris, the Saturday registration drive will be conducted by volunteers and caregivers for people with AIDS, who will ask their clients if they wish to register and help them file for absentee ballots at the same time.

Volunteers from Shanti Project and Project Open Hand will assist in the non-partisan effort, Harris said.

"We're letting our volunteers and clients know through our newsletters that we have vote forms available through Shanti for people who want them. We're ensuring that our clients have easy access to information and services that are available in the city," Holly Smith, a Shanti spokesperson, said. ▼

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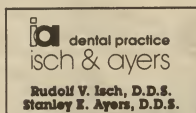
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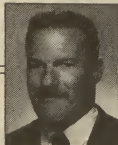
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Yom Kippur

Friday, September 28

7:30 pm, Evening Service (Kol Nidre)

Saturday, September 29

10:00 am, Morning and Children's Services

3:30 pm, Minchah Service

5:00 pm, Yizkor (Memorial), Ne'ilah (Concluding), Havdallah

All Services at Unitarian Center, Geary & Franklin, San Francisco
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■ Due to space limitations, only Sha'ar Zahav members will be seated in the main sanctuary for the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur evening services. Non-members are welcomed to join us in our additional seating areas. ■

Options You Can Live With

There is no cure for HIV. But there are treatment options. The AIDS/HIV Treatment Directory, published by the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR), is a guide to the full range of approved and experimental treatments. A one-year subscription to the Directory (4 issues) is only \$30.00. To subscribe, or to make a contribution, send your check to AmFAR. Your options may be greater than you think.

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People with HIV disease who cannot afford a paid subscription may obtain a complimentary copy by calling the National AIDS Information Clearinghouse at 1-800-458-5231.

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SF RECYCLING PROGRAM



(Photo by Rick Gerharter)

Queer Nation kiss-in held earlier this summer.

Coming Home Again

"Queer what?" "Queer Nation. It's a new group I'm excited about — sort of like ACT UP, but with a different focus."

"Never heard of it."

"No wonder. You've been gone a long time, Mike. A lot has happened since you've been away."

I guess. My friend Irwin was explaining just what I had missed since I left for Romania in mid-April. I knew about the AIDS Conference and the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade, of course. I also knew about annual events such as the film festival and various street fairs.

But I had no idea that the Names Project quilt had been displayed in San Francisco once again, that a boycott of Miller beer had been established, that ABC had pulled the gay episode of *thirtysomething* from its summer rerun schedule or that Dan Turner, one of the longest-surviving people with AIDS, had died.

I followed some of these events through CNN International, my overseas lifeline to America, while recuperating from a sudden but lengthy illness at a friend's house in Belgium.

The AIDS Conference, for instance, received major news coverage in Europe as well as at home, and even the parade rated a film clip or two. I heard about other events in periodic letters from friends. But for the most part, I felt isolated from the news back home. I had little idea what was happening in my beloved

San Francisco — and for once in my life, I didn't really care.

The main reason for this was simple — I had other things on my mind. My trip to Romania was planned not as an extension of my life in San Francisco, after all, but as a temporary break from it. I went to investigate political developments, not to promote the gay movement. If, in the course of my research, I encountered any sort of gay "subculture," I would certainly look into it, but frankly, it wasn't my first priority.

Then, when I got sick, I could think about nothing but getting better. All else paled in comparison. I stopped writing articles. I abandoned the journalism classes I was teaching. I spent four days in a Romanian hospital contemplating mortality. Then I got the hell out of Dodge and focused on the future.

When my health improved at last, I redefined my mission in Europe. From journalist and teacher, I became a simple tourist. Returning slowly to Eastern Europe — but not to Romania — I spent the rest of my trip visiting churches, palaces and museums rather than political demonstrations and university classrooms.

Naturally, I saw something of gay life along the way. In Brussels, Bruges, The Hague, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Nuremberg and Vienna I visited gay bars. Each was very much like the last, and if I half-closed my eyes and ignored the language differences, I could easily pretend I was back in San Francisco again.

For a while, I considered writing about my experiences in these places. My editor had encouraged me to share stories of my travels with readers at home, after all.

But frankly, I preferred to relax. Besides, I couldn't believe that anyone would actually be interested in yet another vacation article about the cute blond Dutchman who had a lover, alas, or the remarkably friendly young German who turned out to be straight.

Later, to compensate for my sloth, I met and interviewed leaders of gay organizations in Budapest and Prague. This time I really did mean to write something, but there wasn't enough time. I spoke to too few people to write a truly comprehensive article, and anything less just wouldn't do. Gay encounters in Berlin and Paris were equally limiting.

Significantly, I visited bars and conducted interviews mainly because of a questionable sense of duty to the gay community and to my own gay identity. I had always led a predominantly gay lifestyle. Shouldn't I do the same?

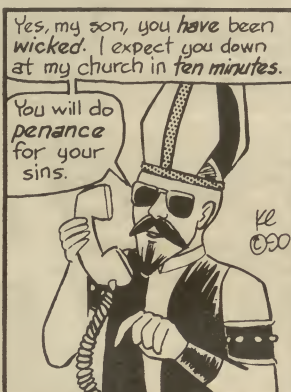
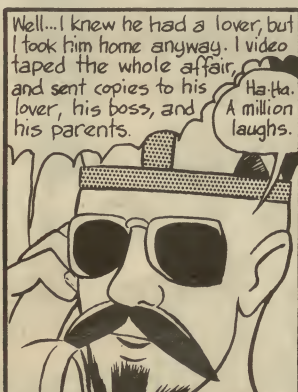
But as time passed, that sense of duty to established patterns faded. I detached myself more and more from the gay issues and causes that had always absorbed me and devoted myself almost exclusively (and perhaps selfishly) to my own personal agenda.

Fortunately, that agenda included exploring the world about me, and I discovered

(Continued on page 23)

MURPHY'S MANOR

by Kurt Erichsen



Testify at Textbook Hearings

Compiled by Ben Carlson

The community is urged to galvanize for a good turnout in Sacramento on Sept. 13 at the textbook approval hearings before the California State Board of Education.

There will be a rally and informational picket of the proceedings. People from every part of our community are encouraged to attend to demonstrate their support for inclusion of lesbian, gay and bisexual concerns in the textbooks used in public schools throughout California (and therefore in many other states, as well).

The phone number to call for anyone wishing to sign up to speak is (916) 445-9016. Look for more information on the exact location and time of the rally on Sept. 13, in Sacramento, or call GLAAD.

Gallagher

The popular comic Gallagher recently shocked audiences at Caesar's Tahoe by making fun of AIDS and gay-bashing. During his act Gallagher said that, since he was a good American, he wouldn't burn any flags, but he might "burn a couple of fags."

Audience members report that he gave a vicious tirade against openly gay U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, repeatedly using the word "fag," and then sprayed a can of Silly String over the audience, while ranting, "This is AIDS in a can. Now you don't have to fuck with a fag to get it."

In response to calls from the media, Gallagher's agent said, "I'm sure if Gallagher offended some people, that's always bound to happen in comedy."

Gallagher refuses so far to meet with GLAAD directly, but we can all bombard him with letters. I'm sure if we screw up his p.r., that's always "bound to happen" in reality.

Here's the target: Gallagher, c/o Gary Propper, 1120 Vista Grande, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272, (213) 454-8013, fax (213) 459-1030.

Send a copy to the president and CEO of Caesar's Tahoe. Tell him not to let Caesar's be a forum for misinformation, homophobia and incitements to violence. Write to: Mr. George Nattin, President and CEO, Caesar's Tahoe, P.O. Box 5800, Lake Tahoe, NV 89449

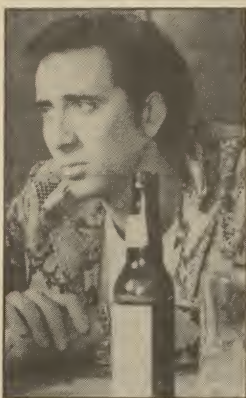
Wild at Heart

Has this ever happened to you?

You're watching a movie by a director you love, say *Wild at Heart* by David Lynch. The star, Nicolas Cage, is surrounded by a gang of toughs out of nowhere just when he's trying to make a climactic decision. You know that trouble's afoot, and your heart goes out to the hero.

Then he opens his mouth and says to the thugs, "What can I do for you faggots?" He gets beaten senseless. When he comes to, he apologizes to the thugs for calling them homosexuals.

It will happen to you if you see the movie. That's why you'll want to write to Meyer Gottlieb, President, Samuel Goldwyn Co., 10203



Nicolas Cage

Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90067, (213) 552-2255 and Samuel Goldwyn, Jr., Chairman, at the same address.

Arsenio Hall

On his Aug. 17 show, Arsenio's guest was comedic actor Steve Martin. To embarrass

Martin, Arsenio played the bed scene from *Planes, Trains and Automobiles* in which Martin and John Candy have to share a bed for the night. The characters freak out when they awaken entwined (they say ooh, yuck etc. and start talking about baseball in a hyper-masculine way). Arsenio commented about the reaction of Martin's character, "He feels the same way I do."

Earlier this summer, Hall made disparaging jokes about what Superman would be like if he were gay, and joked that "if River Phoenix married Billy Ocean, that would be just gross."

Arsenio's heard from us before. Let's remind him again that he can cut out the anti-gay stuff and still be funny. Arsenio Hall, Arsenio Hall Communications, c/o Paramount Pictures, 5555 Melrose Ave., Hollywood, CA 90038.

Presumed Innocent

How did you like the scene in *Presumed Innocent* in

which a cop tells star Harrison Ford that their new Police Chief is a winner, because he "cleaned up the park, and got rid of all those faggots?"

Tell Robert A. Daley, CEO, Warner Brothers, Inc., 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, CA 91522, (818) 954-6000.

Oprah Winfrey

"What is the impact of gay parents... on children? Of the 35 studies that have been done on homosexual parents, none have found adverse effects on children," said Oprah Winfrey in the introduction of a recent show.

Oprah's guests included a gay male couple and one of their sons, all of whom made an excellent case against the idea that only straight people can be good parents.

While Oprah allowed an opposing (anti-gay) viewpoint to be expressed, she indicated through incredulous shaking of her head and use of an artificially deep voice that she thought it was baloney.

Oprah hasn't always been so enlightened. GLAAD once criticized her because during a program on lesbian separatism, Oprah treated the women and their politics unfairly in her opening remarks, her questions and her tolerance of bigoted comments from the audience.

On the gay adoption program, however, Oprah either countered bigoted remarks herself, or turned to someone else who did (such as guest Roberta Achtenberg, former

(Continued on page 15)

Stay Informed, Fight Back

Congratulate the media for fair and accurate coverage of lesbians and gays. Protest defamatory coverage. Contact the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation of the San Francisco Bay Area for media addresses and phone numbers.

Notify GLAAD/SFBA of all defamations, and if possible supply us with copies or recordings. Our hotline number is (415) 861-4588, our fax number is (415) 863-4740, and our mailing address is 347 Dolores St., Suite 312, San Francisco, CA 94110.

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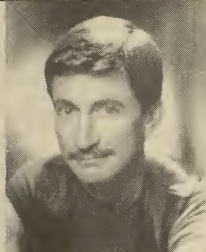
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HIV WATCH

What's In a Name?

by Michael C. Botkin

The term "AIDS" is finishing its first decade of use a little worse for the wear, but overall in surprisingly good shape. It is well established in both official terminology and popular usage and will likely remain the official label as long as the disease is around.

But HIV vocabulary is still mostly an awkward and inadequate compendium of imprecise and incomplete words.

Words are powerful things — it would be odd if I, a writer, thought otherwise. Some believe that words create power, others that they reflect power and power relationships.

The brief history of HIV words is certainly a fine example of how vocabulary reflects social change and struggle.

For one thing, AIDS vocabulary began on a remarkably blank slate. When the first cases of the new disease began to appear in 1978, there were hardly any words in the popular vocabulary — or even in medical jargon — to describe it.

As phrases were coined to deal with the new phenomenon, they reflected the social and financial battles that surrounded it.

Goodbye GRID

The first informal name for the disease was the unlamented acronym "GRID," for gay related immune disorder. This was a fairly technical and somewhat accurate tag for the illness in 1980, when most of the identified "victims" were gay, and all that was known about it was that it was an "immune disorder."

But this tag soon became obsolete as new data poured in. And the gay community was never wild about the term anyway. GRID was tossed on the garbage heap of history, where it remains a sordid reminder of the early link between AIDSphobia and homophobia.

More social struggle is recorded in the name finally accepted for the cause of the disease (if it is, in fact, the cause). Rival French and U.S. teams raced to find the "AIDS virus," and each proposed their own name for it as a way to nail down ownership of the discovery.

Gallo's U.S. team called it HTLV III; Montaignier's French group called it LAV.

The final name, HIV, for human immunodeficiency virus, was a compromise between the names coined by the opposing teams, symbolic of the decision that discovery honors were to be split between them.

Less symbolic was the legal agreement dividing potential patent rights. It was later discovered that Gallo merely copied the French virus, and his patent rights are being challenged. But despite Gallo's cheating, the compromise label "HIV" remains permanently engraved in the vocabulary. There's a moral somewhere in that story.

Naming People

Naming a disease or a virus is less loaded than naming people. After all, viruses can't complain about the

names they are given, but people can. Once the word "AIDS" caught on, those diagnosed with the syndrome began to be labeled "AIDS victims." Many did not like it.

By this time, however, the AIDS movement had begun to pull together, and it succeeded in challenging this title. The term PWA, or person with AIDS, was coined, and drove "AIDS victim" out of the arena — at least out of those arenas where political correctness counts for anything.

However, attempts to popularize the somewhat more politically correct term "PWL," or person living with AIDS, have met with pretty limited success.

ACT UP has coined "PISD," person with immune system disorder, which includes anyone with severe allergies, but easily the snappiest acronym in the whole HIV vocabulary.

I have been criticized by Saggpickers — a new word, derived from Self Appointed Guardians of Political Correctness or SAGPC, pronounced "saggpick" and the root for "saggpickers" and "sag-picking" — for my use of the term "HIV." Although I coined the word on my own, I discovered at the recent International Conference on AIDS that it has been used in Europe for a couple of years now. I have written to Gallo

(Continued on page 23)

AIDS Briefs

Bike-A-Thon Nets \$1.5 Million

The 1990 AIDS Bike-A-Thon and Different Spokes has announced that nearly all the pledges committed by dedicated cyclists (totaling \$244,000) have been received and turned over to the 15 AIDS service providers participating in AIDS Bike-A-Thon 6, held May 12 in San Francisco. As in the past all of the collected monies will be turned over to the beneficiaries. Organized entirely by volunteers (no paid staff) this fundraiser has raised more than \$1.5 million for direct care services for PWA/PWARCs. More than 1,200 cyclists, hundreds of volunteers, thousands of pledge sponsors and dozens of sponsors participated this year. Among the beneficiaries were the AIDS Emergency Fund, \$58,000; the Center in Oakland, \$17,000; PAWS, \$21,000; Project Open Hand, \$63,000; Project Inform, \$13,000; and Ellipse, \$10,000.

Study Targets Filipino Gays

The first baseline study in the nation of Filipino gay and bisexual men and their knowledge, attitudes, beliefs and behaviors pertaining to AIDS, targets 100 Filipino gay/bisexual men to participate in the anonymous and confidential survey. Filipinos constitute the highest prevalence of AIDS cases among Asian and Pacific Islander groups in San Francisco. The Filipino opinion survey is part of a larger minority gay/bisexual male survey that includes Native Americans and Latinos. Because there is limited data available on minorities and AIDS, the study will be useful in assessing the needs of gay/bisexual communities of color regarding HIV disease. The study is being conducted jointly by the San Francisco Department of Health AIDS Office, the marketing research and public opinion analysis firm of Fairbank, Bregman & Maullin and the Filipino Task Force on AIDS. For more information on the survey, or if you would like to participate, call 285-8639.

Shanti Home Care Companion Training

A free training for friends, lovers and family members who are caring for people with AIDS/ARC at home is being jointly offered by Shanti Project and Home Care Companions Inc., during five weeknight evenings from 7 to 10 p.m., Sept. 12-18. This is a "how-to" training for anyone who is caring for or anticipating caring for a friend with AIDS/ARC at home. Call 824-3269 for more information. Advance registration is required.

Commission on AIDS Issues Report

The National Commission on AIDS has released a report to President Bush and Congress that cites serious problems in three major areas of the HIV epidemic including the AIDS clinical trial program, rural America, and the nation's health care work force. In research, the commission found that too few people of color, women and children are included in clinical trials; that research has expanded too slowly on the management of opportunistic infections even though they are usually the cause of death for people with AIDS; that federal officials need to respond to the perception of possible conflict of interest, and the call for full disclosure of pharmaceutical company consulting relationships, by researchers who also advise the National Institutes of Health on AIDS matters. Some of the commission's recommendations: A comprehensive community-based primary health-care system, supported by adequate funding and reimbursement rates, is essential for the care and treatment of all people, including people living with HIV infection and AIDS; AIDS education and outreach services in rural communities should be expanded; the NIH clinical trials program is in serious trouble, aggressive efforts must be made to overcome the obstacles to participation for many who are under-represented; more research is needed on the management of opportunistic infections; there is a shortage of crisis proportions of health care providers capable and willing to care for people living with HIV infection and AIDS; action must be taken now to increase and improve the effectiveness of all programs designed to educate and retain practicing health care professionals, and to create incentives for providers to care for people in underserved areas.

Baths

(Continued from page 8)

of Public Health during the great controversy that ultimately led to the closing of San Francisco's gay bathhouses.

His reluctance to force bathhouses out of business subjected him to tremendous political pressure until he finally clamped down on their operations. The health director's political standing was a casualty of the battle, and he retired soon afterward.

Silverman says now, "I hesitated to close the bathhouses six years ago because I wanted to get the safe-sex message across to the whole community, not just to the few percent who were regular bathhouse customers. I also preferred that the gay community, and not the government, move to shut down the bathhouses. The community never did act, however."

When asked about the influence that the remaining bathhouses around the country currently might have on the shape of the epidemic, Sil-

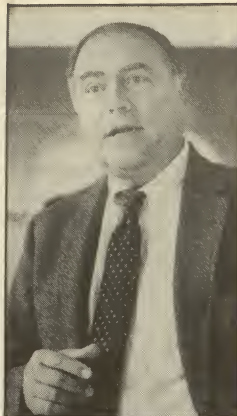
verman refers to the UC relapse study: "The situation is bad enough without the bathhouses. Any facility that encourages unsafe sex is unconscionable, what with a 20 percent relapse rate and the large numbers of new and young people who haven't been sufficiently exposed to safe-sex education."

The AmFAR president dismisses suggestions that bathouselike institutions could serve as centers for promoting safe sex.

"Putting up safe-sex signs in a bathhouse is like putting up warnings against sugar in a candy store," he retorts.

Ron Stall is even less impressed with bathhouses' potential as safe-sex centers.

"So they pass out some leaflets and hang up some signs that other people paid for — gee, I'm impressed," Stall said, growing increasingly sarcastic. "If I had to lay money on it, I'd say, yeah, bathhouses promote relapse, given the commercialization of sexual activity, the dark rooms and the alcohol, popper and drug use as well as the general craziness.



David Werdegarr

'A Lost Weekend'

"Consider somebody on a lost weekend, a four-and-a-half hour speed run. He wants to get screwed, and in a bathhouse you can take on 20 comers. There's no place you could do that elsewhere."

Stall does caution that whereas bathhouses are clearly places "where high-riskers congregate," the question "Do bathhouses make high-riskers more high risk?" cannot be answered with any certainty. "To try to find this out, all you could do is send in the sex police, and such a study wouldn't be valid because it would change behavior," the researcher believes.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation is the main beneficiary of AmFAR's relapse grants. There, Rene Durazzo, the foundation's director of public policy, has a more favorable view of the bathhouse situation.

"Many sex clubs are organized to promote prevention. I can't think of a better place to do that," Durazzo said. "It's true that if there's no effort to ensure precautions, then the people operating the clubs are working in an extremely irresponsible manner, but the sex club owners here understand this. They've gotten together with us in a task force to see that safe-sex practices are followed. In Berkeley the bathhouse has the strongest example of outreach in the country. This is the environment we want to see."

Durazzo thinks that comparisons of HIV prevalence between San Francisco and cities where bathhouses remained open are not particularly relevant.

"You can't really isolate out the contribution that bathhouses make to spreading AIDS because there are too many differences between cities in the total environment — what goes on in people's homes, and so forth." He does note that "In San Francisco, the epidemic peaked in 1983, a year before the bathhouses in the city went out of business. But I don't want to rehash that old argument; right now, we've got a highly visible prevention effort going on."

Eric Rofes, executive director of the Shanti Project, a major AIDS service organization, lived in Boston and Los Angeles before coming to San Francisco. He tends to agree with Durazzo about the difficulties in pinning down bathhouses' role in the epidemic.

"During my time in Los Angeles, the Gay and Lesbian Center did a lot of education work around bathhouses, and it went very well. In Boston, there were hardly any bath-



Eric Rofes.

houses, and they were never an important issue — but there's more unsafe sex than in bathhouses."

Rofes stresses the importance of local activism in targeting sites for safe-sex education and making sure that AIDS prevention programs are carried out.

Community Involvement

Even Stall concedes that community involvement can make a big difference in the nature of sex clubs.

"Rather than closing bathhouses, they could be transformed into j/o clubs and the like, with larger, well-lit rooms and run by community organizations rather than sleazy operators," Stall speculates.

Rofes is also confident that bathhouse patrons will find the safe-sex message attractive.

"The gay community has been very successful at keeping up sex-positive values

(Continued on page 20)



Watergarden patio

(Photo by Rick Gerhart)

Business Booming At Bay Area Baths

by Allen White

During the past weekend business was booming at the Bay Area's only bathhouses, the Watergarden in San Jose and the Steamworks in Berkeley.

The popularity of these clubs is similar to that enjoyed by gay health clubs across the nation.

In Vancouver last month Gay Games III brought young, healthy and virile men by the thousands to the city and many jammed the city's baths.

These operations are dramatically different from their counterparts of the early '80s before the dawning of the age of AIDS. Today's baths focus on safe sex and provide a clean place for gay men to congregate. The emphasis is now on health. They are no longer called "baths." Most are listed as "gyms/health clubs" in such publications as the Bob Damron's Address Book.

The Watergarden, in San Jose, boasts an outdoor patio with jacuzzi, tanning rooms, workout rooms with the lat-

est in weights and other facilities designed to encourage a healthy body. No drugs or alcohol are allowed.

The Steamworks in Berkeley occupies a converted warehouse. They also have weights, steam rooms and a jacuzzi. The emphasis on cleanliness would draw praise even from the most severe critic.

For the past seven years, that praise would be given quietly. These establishments have stayed in the business, many believe, simply by staying out of the spotlight.

"We have been instructed to say absolutely nothing to the press," one worker at the Steamworks told the Bay Area Reporter.

Following the completion of a membership application, those entering the club are directed to a wall of rules. They are serious, short and direct. Unsafe sex is not allowed. Violators are ejected and banned.

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Lobbyists

(Continued from page 4)

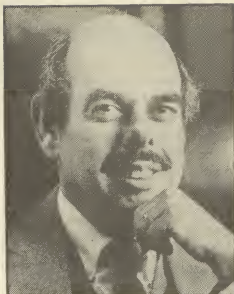
Powerful Concentration

Such a powerful concentration of California representatives in critical budget and finance areas could not suit Mobilization's aims of increasing funding to fight AIDS better.

"The chair of the House Budget Committee is part of the smallest inner circle that cuts the 'grand deal' with his counterpart in the Senate and the president as to where the trillion-dollar budget will be spent," Boneberg said in an interview earlier this year. "So if you're trying to get increases of hundreds of millions of dollars for AIDS, he's one of the few people—perhaps the only person in Congress—who can really effectively advocate for that."

Earlier this year Mobilization Against AIDS launched a grass-roots letter campaign, the Lobby Team, throughout the state with hundreds of volunteers. The letter-writing effort dovetails nicely with Mobilization's home-base visits to California's congressional delegation: constituents write letters to their representatives while Congress is in session, and when they get home for the recess to touch base with local concerns, voila! they're met by constituent organization lobbyists raising the same issues the hometown folks have been writing about.

Because many legislators are strongly influenced by letters, particularly by individual letters from their constituents, the Lobby Team en-



Henry Waxman

deavor could itself pay off in the fight for added funding for AIDS. Combined with lobbying already going on in Washington and the added local-office lobbying organized by Mobilization, the 1-2-3 effort could have enormous impact, particularly with the tremendous influence the California congressional delegation wields.

One example of the impact of such direct lobbying, Boneberg thinks, can be seen in funding proposals out of the House Budget Committee. Last year Panetta's committee recommended no increase in AIDS funding. This year his committee has recommended a major increase.

Why? Boneberg believes part of the answer lies in the beefed-up lobbying efforts aimed at Rep. Panetta himself. "We think it has something to do with the fact that he met with people from Santa Cruz [about AIDS] this year. Last year he did not."

Face-To-Face Impact

So far the Mobilization-led direct lobbying effort has met this August with Sen. Alan

Cranston, Rep. Howard Berman (D-Studio City), Rep. Leon Panetta (D-Carmel Valley), Rep. Jerry Lewis (R-Redlands), Rep. Bill Lowery (R-San Diego) and Rep. Edward Roybal (D-Los Angeles). Additional meetings have been agreed to by Reps. Stark, Dixon, Fazio, Boxer and Matsui, and a meeting is in the works with Sen. Pete Wilson.

Boneberg explained that while Mobilization staffs, coordinates, arranges, and attends all the meetings, the locally-based agency in the district of the Congress member being met with determines what other groups are involved, what the agenda for the meeting is, and brings out the local constituent issues. In addition, all the agencies involved have agreed that at all the meetings there will be at least one agency represented from both Northern and Southern California.

"In the meeting with Congressman Panetta," Boneberg said, "the Santa Cruz AIDS Project was the lead organization. Congressman Panetta said he could only give us 20 minutes and only six people could get in the room. Santa Cruz said, 'Well, if we're going to go into that room, we need to get someone from the Santa Cruz AIDS Project, someone from the Monterey AIDS Project [which is also in the congressman's district] and a third Santa Cruz-area group.'"

"Then we asked what other groups can we include. Mobilization was one, the AIDS Project of Los Angeles flew somebody up, and Project Inform agreed to send someone down. None of the other groups could have attended because there wasn't room.

But the decision as to who attended was Santa Cruz's."

The agencies participating in the program so far agree that the effort, which Mobilization says will cost the San Francisco agency about \$30,000 to \$40,000 a year to run, has enormous potential impact.

New Idea

So if targeted lobbying is such a great idea, how come no one's ever done it before? The answer, according to Boneberg and other AIDS activists, is the same dismal one heard all too often about many "obvious" community and organization efforts: time, energy and money—and the desperate shortage of all three.

The \$30,000 to \$40,000 Mobilization expects to spend this year on the AIDS direct lobbying effort in California may not seem like a great deal of money when the potential returns are perhaps tens of millions of additional dollars to help fight the epidemic. But it's a lot of money if you don't really have it to spare and if you don't have high-profile, "glamorous" fundraising appeal, which few political lobbying groups do.

But Boneberg, with the blessing of the Mobilization board, thinks the effort is essential in the long-term. "A number of these people have never been met with in their local offices," he said, "which is distressing. They've been met with in Washington, but they've never had face-to-face meetings in their district office with their constituents [about AIDS]."

Another benefit Mobilization is hoping for out of this lobbying effort is building a

greater sense of consensus among California's congressional delegation itself. Because conservative and Republican legislators are often assumed to be hostile, they sometimes get written off without even an attempt at lobbying.

But Mobilization has taken a strictly non-partisan approach with some indication they're on the right track.

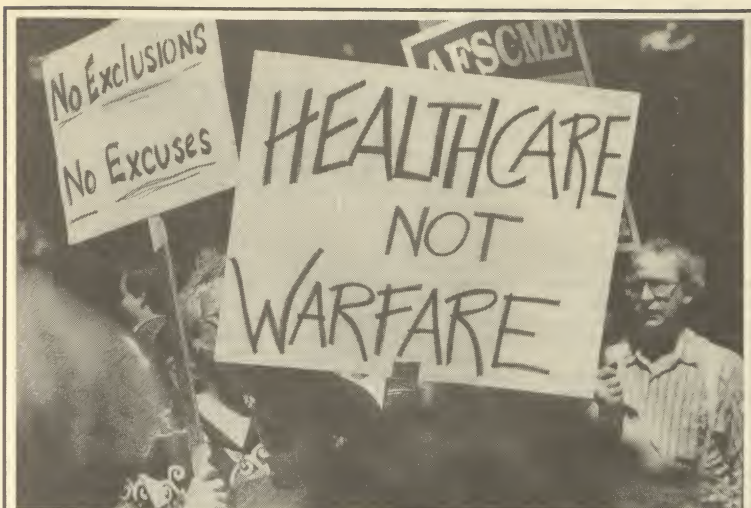
"We met with Congressman [Jerry] Lewis, who's the chair of the Republican caucus and one of the ranking members of the Appropriations Committee," Boneberg said. "Lewis met with us for an hour and a half. He talked about people he knew who had AIDS. Being in the Republican leadership he, of course, has influence. We asked him to use that influence with Republicans in the [budget] summit to help generate support for the funding we need for the Kennedy-Hatch Bill."

"He had never met with anyone from his district to talk to him about AIDS, and he knew he wanted the local perspective. It helped him, and he actually made a proposal about the possibility of helping open a hospital down in San Bernardino County."

But the bottom line, aside from educational benefits and building a stronger consensus among the California delegation, is that direct local lobbying has to be done, and somebody's got to do it.

"We need to deliver local pressure," Boneberg said. "Washington education is good, but people in Washington don't vote for any of these folks. This is exactly what the Washington-based groups have been calling for. They desperately need it." ▼

Stoli. For the purist.



Protesters call for money for health care spending.

(Photo by Rick Gerhart)

Health

(Continued from page 4)

carried down Market Street during many of the community's largest candlelight marches. McClure's ability to march has been hampered in recent years because he was severely beaten at the vigil site.

Harvey Maurer and Frank Richter were just some of the many who had been part of the vigil over the years and who participated in the march. "I'm seeing a group feeling its own empowerment and that always makes me feel good," said Harvey Maurer.

Joining them were representatives from labor, gay or-

ganizations and community groups. The largest contin-

'Health care is one of the most important things we could march for.'

—Warren Windsor

gents were from ACT UP/San Francisco and ACT UP/Los Angeles.

"Health care is one of the most important things we could march about," said

Warren Windsor, a member of ACT UP/ Los Angeles. "The fact is we wouldn't have to exist as ACT UP if this government took care of its people like it is supposed to. Health care is a right in every industrialized nation except South Africa and the United States of America."

The federal government was not the only target of the protest. The march came as state health care cuts in the millions are being faced in San Francisco and across California.

The march began with a small rally emceed by Cleve Jones at Justin Herman Plaza at the foot of Market Street. It concluded with more speeches at the ARC/AIDS Vigil. ▼

GLAAD

(Continued from page 11)

executive director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights and candidate for San Francisco supervisor).

When a panelist whose mother is a lesbian complained about the way she was raised, Oprah cut in with a reminder that heterosexual parents can raise children badly too.

Commend Oprah's sensitivity by writing to her at the Oprah Winfrey Show, P.O. Box 909715, Chicago, IL 60609. Also write to Debra DiMaio, Executive Producer at the same address or call her at (312) 633-1000.

Chinese World Journal

The July 31 issue of the largest daily Chinese-language newspaper in the United States, *World Journal*, contained a story (translated for GLAAD) by Cindy Lee called "Attention: Chinese Immigrants and Parents of Chinese Students — Watch Out for Gays on Campus."

The story profiles John Cheng, a Chinese-American student whose family moved to the U.S. when he was of elementary school age. Now he's in high school, his formerly excellent grades have declined, he's been absent from school, and a shocking truth has been revealed: John has confessed he's been spending time at a gay club!

"According to John," writes Lee, "there are many other gays in school, what's the big deal?"

What John seems to be telling all the Chinese parents

in the U.S. is: watch out for the behavior of your kids, as they can unknowingly be influenced by their environment.

Lee details the counseling given John's distraught parents to the effect that perverse sexual desire, including homosexuality, is likely to result from a lack of parental guidance. She notes that John's brother hopes that love and education will help John to overcome his homosexuality. She also suggests that gays who are afraid of AIDS get immunizations regularly.

Friends of the Johns of the world unite and write! Cindy Lee and Editor-in-Chief, *World Journal*, 724-736 Monterey Pass Rd., Monterey Park, CA 91754-3694.

Modern Bodybuilding

The August issue of *Modern Bodybuilding*, a free newspaper distributed in gyms, contains an ad that proclaims, "Say it! You know you want to! For those of you who don't appreciate the alternate lifestyle — say it loud and proud with the hottest shirt on the market."

The shirt is depicted with "Stop AIDS" on the front and "Pump Iron, Not Your Buddy" on the back around a graphic of two male figures, one bent over in front of the other, inside the circular international "no" symbol (like a "no smoking" symbol).

Complain to Jason Mathis, Editor, *Modern Bodybuilding*, 1801 Lincoln Blvd., No. 255, Venice, CA 90291, (213) 399-4645, and the manufacturer, The Fitness Factory, R.J. Radd Dept., 1911 N. Kickapoo, Shawnee, OK 74801, (405) 273-4844. ▼



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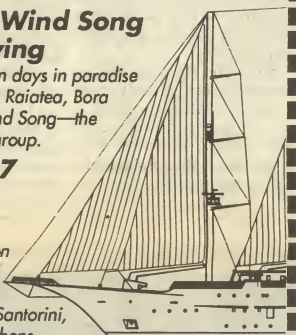
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STATE NEWS

LA Gay Fundraisers Net \$50,000 For Arlo Smith, Harvey Gantt

by Karen Ocamb

An informal group of prominent and wealthy Los Angeles fundraisers collected more than \$50,000 for the campaigns of Arlo Smith and Harvey Gantt in late August.

Both men are considered "good friends" of the lesbian and gay community—the fundraisers said.

The group, which includes attorney Diane Abbott and entertainment business manager Brian Rix, put together the Gantt reception with less than two weeks notice and raised more than \$25,000 in one evening.

Three days later the group threw another fundraiser at the home of Dr. Scott Hitt and Alex Koleszar and raised in excess of \$25,000 for Smith.

It was at the Smith event that some members of the group announced that they would no longer financially support candidates for political office unless the candidate sat down for a face-to-face discussion about the lesbian/gay agenda and included lesbians and gays in the list of minorities for whom they would be working.

"I've been in the field too long and I have toiled hard and I have gotten nothing or very little," Abbott told the crowd. "I'm tired of giving money with a promise of tomorrow."

Abbott said she was only working for and giving money to Smith and Gantt "because they are the only two candidates who will stand up and say they are willing to do very specific things in terms of our agenda. I have not heard any of the gubernatorial candidates say that."

Later Rix confirmed that discussions were under way to set up a private meeting between members of the group and Sen. Pete Wilson, former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein's opponent in the hotly contested race for California governor.

He said that the group was very disappointed in Feinstein's failure to meet with them.

"We spent an hour and 20 minutes in the office of the head of Feinstein's camp," Rix said. "We explained to him that our group could get together and raise between \$100,000 and \$500,000 for Dianne Feinstein if she would meet with us and make a deal (to) talk about our agenda items. Just support our issues just like everybody else, just like every other minority community. And we got no response."

Smith was a little surprised at the fundraiser in his honor

when businessman Val Marmillion and Abbott each snared an arm and continued to make remarks after Smith had completed his pitch.

Marmillion told the crowd that they were privileged to be alive let alone wearing expensive suits and enjoying a view of Los Angeles: "We consider ourselves a privileged class of our minority population."

Marmillion itemized specific concerns that the lesbian/gay community expected of Smith to address once in office, noting that Smith has been a particularly good friend to the lesbian/gay community but added "from now on when we have fundraisers we want everybody to know what our agenda is and how important it is to us."

Rix praised Smith for asking him privately what more Smith could do for the lesbian/gay community without them asking for money.

Rix also praised Gantt for supporting the lesbian/gay community "even when no one was there taking his pulse." He explained that the night after their reception for Gantt, the candidate appeared at an exclusive Brentwood non-gay function and included lesbians and gays in his list of minority concerns. ▼

Fired FBI Agent Widens Lawsuit

by Dennis Conkin

A 20-year veteran FBI agent will ask a U.S. District Court to expand his lawsuit against the agency into a class action suit on behalf of lesbians and gays.

However, the government has filed a motion for summary judgment and is asking the court to dismiss the suit.

Frank Buttino, a former agent who was placed on a forced leave of absence last year and fired by the agency this summer, is scheduled to appear before U.S. District Court Judge Eugene Lynch on Oct. 3.

The FBI argues that Buttino is not entitled to subpoena documents related to his termination or question top level FBI agents about the agency's gay-related employment policies.

Buttino, a top counterespionage and organized crime specialist with the agency, was the victim of an anonymous letter outing him.

He voluntarily disclosed his sexual orientation to his San Diego field office superiors with little incident following the letter.

However, FBI headquarters ordered Buttino placed on leave of absence and ordered him to turn in his badge and firearm.

If the termination is upheld, Buttino would lose almost \$2 million in pension benefits. ▼

State Briefs

Disneyland Same-Sex Event

Come celebrate and commemorate the 10-year anniversary of the event that changed Disneyland history for lesbians and gay men. On Sept. 15, be part of another history-making event at Disneyland by joining your lesbian sisters and gay brothers in unity, dancing where it all began: Tomorrowland, USA. Dancing starts at 7:30 p.m. to live "pop 40" bands at the Tomorrowland Terrace (if open that evening). Ten years ago same-sex dancing at the Magic Kingdom was prohibited by a 1957 written policy. On Sept. 13, 1980, two gay men, Andrew Exler and Shawn Elliott, were physically removed from the Tomorrowland Terrace and ejected from the park after "disco" dancing together at the "Happiest Place on Earth." The incident resulted in a 1984 Superior Court ruling that Disneyland's 27-year-old dance policy violated state civil rights laws. In 1989 Disneyland officials told the *Los Angeles Times* that same-sex dancing would be permitted. On Sept. 15, Andrew Exler will be present at 10 a.m. near the Group Sales Office located west of Disneyland's main entrance, and at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. at the Wishing Well, which is located at the east side of The Castle in Fantasyland. Interested persons should contact Andrew for updated information at (619) 773-6215. General Admission to the park is \$25.50 for adults, which includes admission and all rides. Please note that this is an informal gathering and not a Disneyland-sponsored event. Do not call the amusement park for information. It is recommended that celebrants wear clothing and/or buttons depicting lesbian/gay pride, such as a pink triangles, Lambdas, etc.

Sonoma County D.A. Delays Molest Case

SANTA ROSA — In municipal court Aug. 31, the district attorney asked for and was granted a continuance in the child molestation trial involving Bodega Bay Fire Chief Kevin O'Shea. O'Shea, 44, was arrested on charges of child molestation, contributing to the delinquency of a minor and supplying a minor with alcohol. The accusations against O'Shea were made by a 16-year-old boy, who told Sonoma County sheriff's officers that the fire chief had "provided him with alcohol and molested him." O'Shea, who is openly gay, was fire chief from 1977 to 1985 in the Russian River resort town of Guerneville, where he was highly respected in the area and generally regarded as a competent fire official. O'Shea, when contacted by the *Bay Area Reporter*, indicated that the trial delay was procedural. According to O'Shea the district attorney has a conflicting case. He is being represented by attorney Annette Lombardi of Santa Rosa. Chief O'Shea would not comment further on the case on the advice of counsel. The district attorney's office confirmed the continuance, saying it expects the case to "go forward sometime in October."

— by Cliff Anchor

National Briefs

Police Raid Gay Men's Iowa Camp-out

Thirty police officers — local, county, state and the FBI — raided a gay camp-out near Boone, Iowa, on Aug. 25, arresting one man for possession of marijuana and another for allegedly having had sex with a minor. The 70 campers, who, according to organizers, are mostly "doctors and lawyers and other professionals," gather yearly for the Midwest Men's Festival. In previous years, the 10-day gathering was in Missouri. It was moved this year after Missouri State Park officials cancelled the group's reservation, claiming that last year many of the men were nude, and that at least one couple had sex, which is illegal in Missouri. Police poked their heads into cabins and tents, inquiring if any children were present, organizers said. Photo albums, festival records, personal papers and other materials were seized. Several of the officers wore rubber gloves; others videotaped the raid. Boone County Attorney Steven Oeth told the *Des Moines Register* that police went to the campsite, called Elk Horn Ranch, because of "concern about what was going on." Police later said that two informants had attended the festival and that one observed Harry Hayes of Hiawatha, Kans., have sex with a 9-year-old boy. Boone County Sheriff Ronald Fahr added that two cars at the campground were registered to men convicted of sex offenses with children. But Rich Eychaner, co-owner of the campground, believes the raid was the result of police homophobia. The 9-year-old boy was at the gathering with his father, organizers said.

— Rex Wockner

Dignity Civil Rights Complaint Heard

A discrimination complaint by the gay Catholic group Dignity against the Roman Catholic archdiocese in Minneapolis is moving through the city's Commission on Civil Rights, with a determination due this autumn. Dignity members say Archbishop John Roach discriminated against them based on their affectional preferences, in violation of city law, when, in 1987, he forbade the University of Minnesota Newman Center to renew the group's lease unless Dignity officers signed a statement affirming Catholic teaching on homosexuality. In attempting to defend the archdiocese during an Aug. 1 hearing, attorney Andrew Eizenzimmer argued that the civil-rights commission had no jurisdiction over the Catholic Church. The commission disagreed. Eizenzimmer then argued that Roach's action stemmed from his vow to obey the pope, who, in 1986, released a document denouncing — for the first time in Catholic history — the sexual orientation toward homosexuality, as distinguished from homosexual acts, which the church has considered mortally sinful for centuries. Since 1986, Dignity chapters have been evicted from Catholic buildings across North America. Roach himself testified before the commission, saying: "I was bound by this [papal] document. ... I really had no choice. I had to do what I did."

— Rex Wockner

Court OKs Forced HIV Test

A U.S. Court of Appeals in New Orleans has allowed a hospital to require that a licensed practical nurse submit his HIV test results before returning to work. The court ruled on Aug. 28 that the nurse, Keven Leckelt, was covered by the federal law prohibiting discrimination against persons with handicaps. Because the hospital had a "reasonable suspicion" that Leckelt was infected, though, the court said it was justified in requiring him to submit his HIV results. During the trial, the hospital said its suspicion was based on Leckelt's history of other medical conditions, including syphilis, hepatitis and lymphadenopathy as well as the fact that he was "known to be homosexual." "This decision sends a misguided policy to hospitals," said Nan D. Hunter, an associate professor of law at Brooklyn Law School and the former director of the ACLU AIDS project.

A further danger, Hunter said, was that a male employee's known or suspected homosexuality would be used as a factor to target him for HIV testing. The office of Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services had ruled in Leckelt's favor, agreeing with his argument that HIV testing was not necessary for insuring patients' safety because of the minimal risks of HIV transmission to a patient and because Leckelt's job did not involve invasive procedures such as surgery. The Court of Appeals, however, refused even to consider the civil rights office's ruling because it had not been presented to the trial court. The ruling, though, had been handed down more than a year after the trial concluded, Hunter said.

Gay Student Groups to Meet

The Coalition of Lesbian/Gay Student Groups, an organization of lesbians, gays and bisexuals at colleges and universities in the Southwest, will hold its first conference on Oct. 6 in Dallas. The conference, titled "Embracing Our Diversity," will bring together more than 120 young people from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico and Texas for a one-day educational and inspirational event. Workshops will cover racism, sexism, self-identity, coalition building and lesbian/gay history [sic]. The conference, open to all those interested in human equality and justice, will be at the Dallas Gay Alliance's new Community Center at 2701 Regan. The registration fee is \$12 for youth under 21 and students, \$18 for all others. A limited number of scholarships are available. Housing and transportation for students is being coordinated by the coalition. Information about these services can be obtained by calling the Coalition at (214) 471-6482 or writing to P.O. Box 190712, Dallas, TX 75219.

Financial, Regulatory Misconduct

Gallo Associate To Plead Guilty

by Paul Varnell

A top AIDS researcher in Robert Gallo's laboratory in Baltimore has reportedly reached a plea agreement with federal prosecutors acknowledging guilt on two felony counts.

Syed Zaki Salahuddin had been charged with criminal conflict of interest and accepting an unlawful gratuity by Maryland District U.S. Attorney Breckenridge Willcox on July 24.

According to Peter Stockton, research analyst for the House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation, which originated the investigation, Salahuddin agreed to plead guilty to both charges.

The assistant U.S. attorney handling the case, Dale Kelberman, told *Windy City Times*, a gay Chicago newspaper, on Aug. 24, that it would not be appropriate for him to confirm or deny any such plea agreement.

According to a press release from the U.S. Attorney's Office, Salahuddin, 49, of Gaithersburg, Md., was charged with criminal conflict of interest because while he was employed with the National Institutes of Health he issued purchase orders for goods and services in excess of \$65,000 from Pan Data, a biomedical research firm of which his wife, Firoza, was a founder, initial stockholder and employee.

The additional charge of receiving an illegal gratuity was

based on Pan Data's paying about \$3,000 for the painting of Salahuddin's home in August 1987.

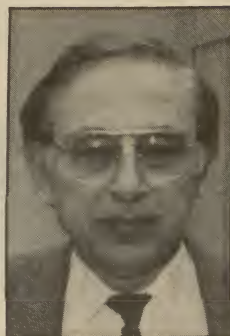
Kelberman said that Salahuddin made an initial court appearance on Aug. 10 at which he was officially informed of the charges and released on his own recognizance. He will appear again on Sept. 7 before U.S. District Court Judge John Hargrove to enter a plea.

The proceedings against Salahuddin are the first result of an investigation of financial and regulatory misconduct in Robert Gallo's Tumor Cell Biology laboratories by the House subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation chaired by U.S. Rep. John Dingell (D-Mich.). The charges were first publicly disclosed at a subcommittee hearing on April 30.

Just hours prior to the hearing, Salahuddin was suspended without pay from his position in Gallo's laboratory. According to a spokesperson for the National Cancer Institute, Salahuddin subsequently resigned from his position there on June 2 "because it is in the best interests of my career."

The spokesperson declined to answer further questions because "he does not work here any longer."

Since the April 30 hearing revealed considerably more extensive allegations than those filed by the U.S. Attorney's Office, there has been speculation that Salahuddin had agreed to cooperate with



Dr. Robert Gallo

the U.S. Attorney's further investigation in return for limited charges being filed against himself.

According to the *Washington Business Journal*, which has reported regularly on the investigation, those additional allegations include claims that: Pan Data commercially sold rare leukemia viruses that had been illegally taken from Gallo's laboratory; Pan Data employees used an NIH credit card to purchase supplies for use in the Pan Data laboratories; Pan Data employees were actually stationed in Gallo's lab where they did work for Pan Data at government expense; Salahuddin himself recommended Pan Data in 1988 as "the only competent lab" for an NIH subcontract for testing for HHV-6, a virus discovered by Salahuddin.

(Continued on page 25)

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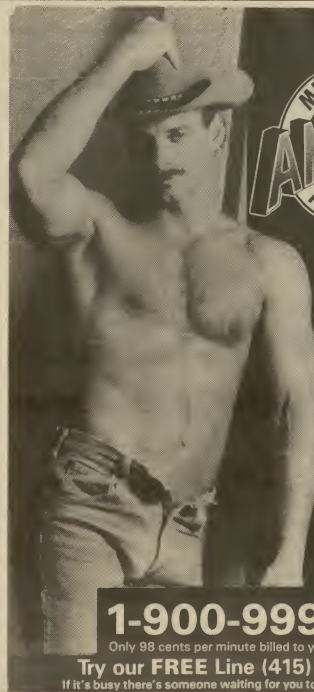


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WORLD NEWS

Controversial Kenyan Bishop Killed in Head-On Auto Crash

by Keith Clark

The Anglican Bishop from Kenya who created a furor when he charged that he was stopped from speaking at an East Bay church when it was learned he intended to denounce homosexuality as "evil," died on Aug. 14 in a head-on automobile crash in Kenya, according to wire reports.

There is speculation that his death may have been a political murder, not an accident.

Bishop Alexander Muge caused a minor religious tempest when he held a press conference on May 21 in Concord, charging that the rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Walnut Creek, the Rev. Gary Ost, had refused to allow him to preach at the church after Ost, who is openly gay, learned that the bishop intended to denounce homosexuality and gay and lesbian unions in the church.

Muge, who had been visiting a number of Episcopal churches in Oregon and California as part of an international Anglican group, said, "It is evil for people who call themselves Christian to practice homosexuality. Ordaining practicing homosexuals and

appointing them as rectors, and blessing homosexual unions are indeed signing the death certificates of our churches."

Muge had been scheduled to address a local social group at St. Luke's on Christianity in Africa. But when Ost discovered what Muge intended to talk to the group about, he told the bishop that he could not "preach a sermon" because it was a social gathering, and that he definitely could not use homosexuality as a topic.

Muge then canceled his appearance at St. Luke's and said, "I believe I am the first bishop in the worldwide Anglican Communion to be denied the right to preach by a priest."

But Muge found no support in the Episcopal Diocese and was sharply criticized by Archbishop William Swin in San Francisco for criticizing priests in his diocese without contacting the diocese first.

"I would never, never go into someone else's diocese, bypass the local bishop, and hold a press conference that was judgmental against the local bishop's diocese," Swin had said of Muge's actions.

Muge was reported to have written to his diocesan

offices in Kenya, asking that all Episcopal missionaries from the United States slated for assignment in Kenya be subjected to background checks to exclude gays and lesbians.

The outspoken Muge had been a persistent political critic of the government of Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi, and had made frequent charges of official corruption and election rigging.

Muge died on his way home to Eldoret after a visit to the border town of Busia when a truck collided head-on with the automobile he was driving.

Only a few days before Muge's trip to Busia, Labor Minister Peter Okondo had publicly warned him to stay away from the troubled area or risk not leaving alive.

Although there has been no evidence to substantiate any charge that Muge was in fact murdered, suspicion is rife. Okondo's threats, for example, forced him to resign his ministry after the collision and left a serious cloud of distrust surrounding the Moi government.

Some 10,000 people attended Muge's funeral services in Eldoret. ▼

Moscow Police Smash Demo

by Rex Wockner

Moscow police violently broke up a gay/lesbian AIDS demonstration July 12 outside the 28th Communist Party Congress at the Kremlin, according to American tourists.

Chicagoan Quinn Brisben and his wife, Andy, who had made contact with the Moscow Union of Lesbians and Gay Men two days earlier in order to deliver 3,000 condoms from ACT UP/Chicago, said police attacked the 10 protesters with clubs but did not seriously injure them.

The activists were arrested, but released shortly thereafter. According to Brisben, the demonstrators demanded "that the Soviet government admit that there is an AIDS problem and do something about it."

The police action was witnessed by numerous Western news reporters, Brisben said, but no reports of the incident surfaced.

The Brisbens themselves had a clash with police on July 11 as they attempted to transfer the 3,000 condoms to four gay activists at a tourists-only hotel.

The activists — Eugenia Debrianskaya, Dmitri Blotchek, Andre Babipsky and Victor Rezunkov — were detained by local police, who confiscated their state ID cards and provoked a loud argument.

But after several minutes, the activists were set free with their IDs and the condoms. The conflict may have stemmed from the activists' presence in a hotel that is only for foreigners. ▼

World Briefs

Associates Say Walesa Isn't Anti-Gay

Close associates of Polish Solidarity Party leader Lech Walesa have told the British Broadcasting Corp. that Walesa is not anti-gay. The statements follow claims by Polish gay activists that Walesa promised in April to "eliminate homosexuals and drug users from Polish society" if he is elected president. Walesa's spokesmen told Eugene Smolar, who heads the BBC's Polish Section, that Walesa never made the "eliminate" statement and "is not hostile to homosexuals." "He's a Catholic, but a liberal one," explained Smolar, who knows Walesa personally. "Walesa probably did make a passing remark about eliminating social problems. This may have been misinterpreted. I'm sure he didn't mean to suggest the elimination of homosexuals. He may have meant eliminating the problems that homosexuals face and the need to speak openly about this subject." Smolar said Walesa was "only a worker, not a professional politician. Sometimes he makes off-the-cuff remarks that he doesn't mean or which are open to misunderstanding. However, deep down ... I know he would oppose discrimination on any basis," Smolar continued. "Whatever Walesa said, his office assured me that he didn't intend to cause offense or alarm." Walesa's aides told Smolar they were very disturbed by reports from San Francisco, where activists have urged the city to rename a street bearing Walesa's name. Walesa's Gdansk office has issued no direct response.

— Rex Wockner and Peter Tatchell

ACT UP Forms Puerto Rico Chapter

Encouraged by a traveling band of 20 ACT UP/New Yorkers, ACT UP/Puerto Rico was born in August and held its first actions Aug. 25-26. About 200 activists, marching behind the banner Activistas Unidos Contra el SIDA, made their way from the Capitol to the governor's mansion, stopping en route at the mayor's office and the Catholic cathedral. The marchers staged a die-in at the church, and later, at the governor's mansion, an affinity group staged a "blood action," dipping their hands in "blood" and chanting, "El gobernador tiene sangre en sus manos" (The governor has blood on his hands). ACT UP spokesman Woody Enoicaras said the march was unusual because of the number of heterosexuals who joined in. San Juan police provided an escort for the march and made minimal response to the blood action at the governor's mansion. The following day, activists staged rallies at the Catholic cathedral and another Catholic church. As ACT UP members congregated outside the churches, Enoicaras and activist Christina Hayworth — dressed as a straight couple and "pushing a borrowed baby in a buggy" — entered both churches and distributed condoms to parishioners up and down the length of the center aisles.

— Rex Wockner

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The Episcopal Sanctuary, formerly Club Baths. (Photo by Steve Savage)

Baths

(Continued from page 13)

while promoting safe sex," he says.

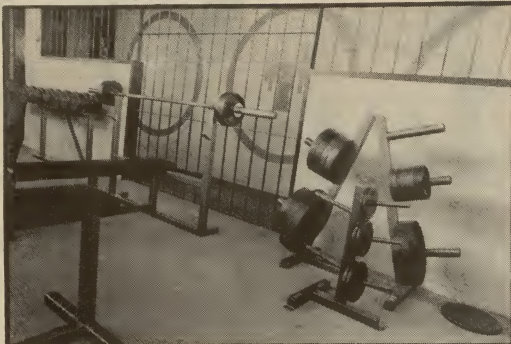
But Stall's questionable "sex police" aside, no one has come up with a method of measuring actual compliance with safe-sex recommendations in a bathhouse setting. That is why the bathhouse debate remains unresolved in the City for the foreseeable future.

Sandra Hernandez, director of the city's Department of Public Health's AIDS Office, said: "It's my opinion that it's not in the best interest of public health to endorse reopening the bathhouses when HIV infection has been significantly curtailed in a high-risk population. The correlation between bathhouse openings and rates of new HIV infection is what

houses several safe-sex clubs, said, "I think there should be safe and secure places for gay men to have sex, but I'm not sure if bathhouses aren't an outmoded form. My concerns are about the cubicles where it's difficult to monitor sexual behavior.

"It's absurd that they aren't open here; on the other hand, it's part of our history as being one of the first cities to take action against the epidemic. It's created a very unfortunate precedent. And now that domino effect is spreading to Los Angeles."

Bense said that he had found people around the



Watergarden weight room

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

you'd look for. I'd hate to see that correlation after the fact."

'It's absurd that they aren't open here; on the other hand, it's part of our history as being one of the first cities to take action against the epidemic.'

—Buzz Bense
890 Folsom

Buzz Bense, who operates 890 Folsom, a facility that

country not familiar with San Francisco's history can't believe the City doesn't have bathhouses.

"I was in Vancouver for the Gay Games and an AIDS educator asked me, 'Is it really true that San Francisco doesn't have any bathhouses?'"

Anti-Gay Drive

Bense said that much of the opposition to bathhouses is based on "a feeling among the general population that gay men's sexuality is a health hazard and that it must be stopped. It's gone beyond just AIDS prevention. It's anti-gay."

Earlier this summer, Los Angeles County District Attorney Ira Reiner filed a lawsuit to shut three bathhouses in

(Continued on next page)



The Watergarden's patio and jacuzzi.

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

Chronology

(Continued from page 8)

ple's behavior patterns. That is what needs to be changed. No one should be encouraging people to walk around the bathhouses as 'morals monitors' with weanie-whackers or to don body condoms or hermetically-sealed 501s. So if you close the bathhouses, the next thing you'll have to do is close the parks, and ultimately the bedrooms."

March 27, 1984 — Larry Littlejohn files a notice of intention to circulate petitions for a "Declaration of Policy" ballot measure calling on the Board of Supervisors to amend the City's Policy Code to prohibit all sexual activity at bathhouses and sex clubs. This single action precipitates a crisis in the community over closing the baths, and the issue now becomes an intensely reported topic in the City's gay press. The public debate fomented by Littlejohn's controversial action will rage for months to come, which is what Littlejohn claims is exactly what he was trying to do.

March 28 — A front-page *San Francisco Chronicle* story by Randy Shilts says Silverman is preparing shortly to announce the closing of the gay baths and sex clubs in San Francisco under widespread pressure from gay community leaders.

March 29 — In a panic response to the Littlejohn action and the Shilts front-page *Chronicle* report, the Harvey Milk Club hastily organizes a community forum under the direction of Hank Wilson. Some 85 percent of the people at the forum oppose the Littlejohn initiative. Although invited, neither Littlejohn nor Supervisor Harry Britt show. Wilson and the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights had both initially supported a move asking Silverman to close the bathhouses, but both recanted their support of that move following the public opposition at the Milk forum.

March 30 — At a news conference Silverman, wearing a bullet-proof vest, arrives escorted by plainclothes police officers serving as bodyguards after a reported threat was telephoned to the Health Department saying he would be killed if the baths were closed. At the press conference which has been called by Silverman and where everyone expects he will announce the closing of the baths in the City largely because of the Shilts article the day before, he stuns reports by announcing that he has nothing to talk about.

April 1 — Two groups of community leaders, one chaired by Toklas Club President Sal Rosselli, the other by the Rev. Jim Sandmire of MCC, prepared statements urging Silverman to delay any decision on closing the baths for two weeks to give the gay community time to prepare "safe-sex alternatives" to shutting them down.

April 2 — The gay Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights Board of Directors adopts a statement condemning the Littlejohn action and opposing the closing of the bathhouses.

April 4 — Another community forum, held at the Pride Foundation, is standing room only and just one person — Littlejohn — advocates closing the bathhouses. The consensus of the forum is presented to Silverman April 8 at which time he says he intends to ban all sex except masturbation at the baths and sex clubs. According to people attending the meeting "a handful of activists spoke in general opposition" to Silverman's proposed ban, but most acquiesced.

April 9 — Silverman, using his broad powers as the City's Director of Health, orders a ban on sex between individuals at bathhouses and sex clubs. The ban does not include masturbation.

April 1984 — Littlejohn withdraws his petition intent based on Silverman's ban of sex at the baths and sex clubs.

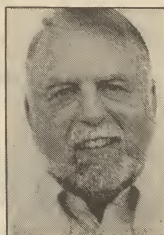
April 1984 — During a roundtable discussion of community leaders, including Larry Littlejohn, San Accardi of the Northern California Bathhouse Association, and Bill Jones, owner of the Sutro Baths, Accardi says, "You don't get a good [safe-sex] education program by threatening to close the bathhouses."

April 1984 — Tim Wolfred, one of several gay leaders who signed a controversial letter to Dr. Silverman urging him to close the baths, explained that he signed the letter because "it was presented to me that there was medical evidence indicating that the bathhouses were a major source in the spread of the disease. I was told that the rectal gonorrhea rates had gone way up again after a major drop, and the gay physicians were pressuring Silverman to take the closure action and that he had agreed and was going to do so. I felt that we as a community needed to support our physicians and through them Dr. Silverman... Well, as it turned out, the rectal gonorrhea rate was not as it was presented to me, the rates have not gone back up. Furthermore, I later found out that the gay physicians were far from united on closure and, in fact, the majority of them even opposed it. And, in fact, Dr. Silverman was not ready to do what we were told he was going to do." Wolfred, along with all but one of the signatories to the letter to Silverman, asks that their endorsement of the letter be withdrawn.

June 1984 — It's revealed that Mayor Dianne Feinstein had sent police officers in plain clothes — or at least in plain towels — to the bathhouses to write up reports on the sexual activity there. When the revelations come, Feinstein demands that Silverman "have the guts" to close the baths before the upcoming Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. It is also, some activists are quick to point out, only a month before the National Democratic Convention is slated to be held in San Francisco.

June 1984 — Nearly two months after announcing his intention to ban sex in the city's bathhouses and sex clubs, Silverman sends the necessary legislation to Police Chief Cornelius Murphy asking for public hearings on changes to the city's Police Code governing permits for bathhouses. The proposed regulations detail exactly what sexual acts are forbidden. Although gay businesses are not singled out as a group, only sex acts between men are prohibited, including anal intercourse, fisting, oral sex, oral-

(Continued on next page)



Larry Littlejohn



Tim Wolfred

Cities with Gay Bathhouses

Akron
Berkeley
Buffalo
Chicago
Cleveland
Columbus
Dallas
Denver
Detroit
Duluth
Fort Lauderdale
Grand Rapids
Honolulu
Houston
Indianapolis
Jacksonville
Kansas City
Los Angeles
Miami
Milwaukee
Minneapolis (Ankora)
New Orleans
New York
Orlando
Palm Springs
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Providence
Reno
Rochester
Sacramento
Salt Lake City
San Antonio
San Diego
San Jose
San Juan
Seattle
St. Louis
Tampa
Tucson
Washington, D.C.

From information obtained in *Bob Damron's Guide* and *Ferrari Publications' Places for Men*.

Chronology

(Continued from previous page)

anal contact and any exchange of body excrement. In addition, brighter lighting is required, glory holes are forbidden, and doors on individual rooms are not allowed. Meanwhile, Supervisor Harry Britt introduces legislation that would transfer licensing of the baths from the Police Department to Public Health. In August a Board committee — including Britt — unanimously rejects the proposed switch in licensing authority. Britt spoke against his own proposal saying, "We've discovered that civil liberties can be better protected within the Police Department."

September 1984 — Gay bathhouses and sex clubs in San Francisco band together to form the Adult Entertainment Association to collectively fight "any attempt to put us out of business," which the association believes is imminent. At the same time the SF AIDS Foundation starts mustering support for plans to monitor sex clubs and baths in an attempt to forestall direct government intervention.

October 1984 — Dr. Mervyn Silverman orders the city's 14 gay sex clubs and bathhouses closed on Oct. 9. Although by noon that day all the clubs had been shut down by city health inspectors, by the next day most were again open for business as the owners openly defied the city to take the issue to court. The defiance was short-lived, however, because the city does in fact get a court order closing the baths and sex clubs for a total of 44 days. Judge Roy Wonder finally rules on Nov. 28 that the baths can reopen if doors are removed from "private" rooms and if there are sexual monitors at the establishments when they are open. A little-noted exemption in Judge Wonder's order, however, allowed clubs "which are licensed to be operated as hotel rooms" as defined in the city's Municipal Code to leave private room doors on.



Judge Roy Wonder

October 1984 — The Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties forms, spearheaded by Steve Cain, Vince Quackenbush and Randy Stallings, and calls for a public rally to protest the closure of bathhouses and sex clubs.

December 1984 — Silverman resigns under pressure from the Feinstein administration and is replaced "temporarily" by Dr. David Werdegard, who headed the City's Health Department until August 1990. The first and most crucial phase of the closing of the baths in San Francisco ends. The only appropriate epilogue might be that "the other shoe" never dropped. Widespread predictions that baths and sex clubs all over America would be shut down by the hundreds failed to come to pass.

1985 — Dubbed "The Great Panic of '85," the year sees an explosion of new developments surrounding AIDS. The armed forces institutes mandatory HIV testing of all new recruits, over half-a-million people annually; the Denver city prison issues distinguishing gray uniforms to all gay prisoners; the City Health Department becomes so backlogged with press inquiries that a new position — public information officer — has to be created.

January 1985 — City advisory committees in Los Angeles and San Diego urge that health officials there not follow San Francisco's example in closing the gay bathhouses.

January 1985 — After months of Reagan administration foot-dragging, the FDA finally announces a target date for releasing an AIDS anti-body blood test that would help keep the virus out of the nation's blood banks and give early warning of exposure to the virus. Activists and AIDS researchers alike, however, have already raised serious questions about the accuracy and reliability of the test and expressed great concerns over confidentiality of test results. Dr. Robert Gallo, for example, says the test might miss detecting between 5 percent and 30 percent of those infected partly because of the delay between the time of infection and the time it takes to produce antibodies.

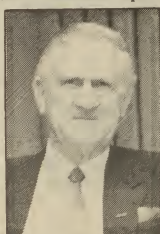
Jan. 28 — A request before the City's Civil Service Commission and the Health Commission for approval of a \$10,000 contract for private investigators to monitor gay bathhouses and sex clubs draws stiff opposition from Mobilization Against AIDS and the Committee to Preserve Our Sexual Civil Liberties. Gay attorney John Wahl, a member of both groups, points out to both commissions that there was nothing in Judge Roy Wonder's bathhouse injunction calling for undercover surveillance.

March 1985 — AIDS anti-body blood tests are made available to blood banks around the country and the screening process of the nation's blood supply begins.

October 1985 — U.S. Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Fullerton) introduces a string of bills in the House that would require cities to close all bathhouses frequented by gay men in order to remain eligible for federal revenue-sharing programs.

March 1986 — Judge Roy Wonder, ruling on a complaint from the City Attorney's Office, concluded that two gay sex clubs, The Slot and Animals, had abused their "hotel exemptions" to a 1984 court order preventing the clubs from renting private rooms to patrons and ordered their permits revoked. The move effectively closed down the two popular South of Market establishments.

May 1987 — An agreement reached between the City and owners of the 21st Street Baths and approved by Judge Roy L. Wonder on May 6, allowed owners to close their facility to avoid criminal prosecution. The agreement also prohibited them from any further "sexually oriented use of said premises without first obtaining approval of the court" and from owning or operating "any bathhouse, sex club club or other commercial premises involving high risk sexual activity" without approval of the court. The owners said, in anticipation of the agreement, that they had already closed the bathhouse on May 4. Attorney Tom Steele, representing the owners, said at the time: "The real dynamic behind the agreement is there is no future in trying to keep a bathhouse open and going at this point in history." ▼



William Dannemeyer

Baths

(Continued from previous page)

that county.

The civil nuisance suit charges the Hollywood Spa, the Compound and the Corral Club with violating the Red Light Abatement Law, which means they allegedly "encourage and permit sexual conduct that can transmit the AIDS virus, including, but not limited to anal sex, oral copulation and multiple partner anonymous sex."

The suit, using Centers for Disease Control guidelines, does not recognize condom use as lowering the risk of HIV transmission.

The operators of the baths in question deny that their facilities encourage unsafe sex.

Scott Goulet, co-owner of the Hollywood Spa and the Compound, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that his two baths are operated differently today, with a more closeted clientele than before. He said the baths were potential AIDS education centers for people who are not specifically gay-identified and who might seek unsafe sex in parks or alleys if the baths were closed down.

The board of directors of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center unanimously adopted a policy opposing closing any bathhouses Aug. 20.

"The sexual transmission of the virus that causes AIDS remains an enormous health problem among gay men in Los Angeles County. To stop the transmission of HIV, the focus must be on education and safer sex. Safer sex education at the baths saves lives by reaching people who otherwise might not practice safer sex, either in the baths or in



21st Street Baths closed in 1987.

(Photo by Steve Savage)

other locations. Closing those bathhouses, which encourage safer sex, may lead to the further spread of HIV by removing an important source of education. The center supports, has been working with, and will continue to work with those bathhouses which encourage safer sex."

Dave Johnson, Los Angeles City AIDS coordinator, summed up Reiner's action against the baths: "I see it as an attack on gay men's culture and gay men's sexuality that has nothing to do with fighting AIDS. I think it's blatant political opportunism."

Even if the political climate

changes in the City, permitting bathhouses to open, they won't be found in their old locations. Virtually every building that housed bathhouses in the '80s has been converted into business space. The Club Baths at 8th and Howard is now the Episcopal Sanctuary; Ritch Street Baths is an office building and restaurant; Sutra Baths now is a nightclub. Only the 21st Street Baths remains boarded up.

If any baths were to open in San Francisco, they would most likely be established in new locations with considerable investment on the part of potential owners. ▼

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THE FUN-GUYS

DEATHS

Joe Dorris

Joe Dorris passed peacefully into the next phase of his evolution July 25. All who knew him loved him, and he in return loved them. His positive approach to life carried over to his final days, and he died with no regrets.

We loved you, Joe. Your smile and quick wit will be missed. Joe is survived by his mother, Lucy; his brother, Tom; sister-in-law, Tina, and nephew, Brian. Contributions in Joe's memory may be made to the SF AIDS Foundation and Coming Home Hospice.

P.S. Thanks, Joe, for teaching me what only you could teach me and loving me as only you could love me. — Hooper.

Jim "J.R." Podratz

Aug. 21, 1948–Aug. 26, 1990

J.R. died Sunday afternoon at Garden Sullivan in the love and care of many friends and family.

J.R. reached out to people through an outrageous humor, always maddening yet endearing. "Mr. Bear" could never throw away any thing or anyone that had shown some moment of beauty. His house was filled with slightly broken objects that still showed moments of beauty just as his life was filled with unique friends each of whom exhibited moments of profound beauty and special need.

J.R. left insurance for his first love: teaching. At Humboldt State, he found sufficient solace and friends to earn his master's.

Afterwards, he entered the Special Ed joint doctoral program at UC Berkeley and SF State, finally finding the professional and academic home he had long sought. His reputation grew along with his commitment and success. J.R. especially loved the students and faculty at Louise Lombard, his home-bound students and the children at Langley-Porter.

All of us have a special place in our hearts for J.R., one that will always burn with the same passion he showed for life, for his work and for his friends.

Memorial service, Sept. 9, 9:30 a.m. Seven Hills Conference Center, Nob Hill Room, 800 Font Blvd., SF State campus.

James "Jim" Boone Belk

Oct. 24, 1958–Aug. 30, 1990

James (Jim) Boone Belk reluctantly but smilingly said "Goodbye for now" to his lover, Nathan Dixon (a.k.a. Nikole Dushay), at 8:30 p.m. Jim fought a courageous battle with AIDS during the last year of his life. His support and pride for "Nikole" was ever-present.

His quick smile will be missed by the many friends who knew and loved him and hope the shopping is more interesting "there."

Memorial information will be announced at a later date or call 495-0675. Truly, Jim, you are the wind beneath my wings. I love you — Nickole.

Michael Mario Cox

A memorial service will be held Sept.

15, 11 a.m., at Greystone, the Doherty Estate in Beverly Hills, for Mike Cox, 35, who died of lymphoma Aug. 18 at his Los Angeles home. For additional information, call (213) 935-9941. His ashes will be

scattered at a later date, and he is survived by his father Joe Cox of Stanton, N.J. Donations in his memory to the Shanti Foundation in Los Angeles are preferred.

Born in San Diego, Cox grew up in Menlo Park, Calif., and graduated from Palo Alto High School, then received his bachelor of arts degree from San Francisco State University in 1984. While living in the Bay Area he performed from 1973 to 1982 with the Pacific Dance Center group, the San Francisco Ballet, Marin Civic Ballet, Dance Spectrum, San Francisco Moving Company, Oberlin Dance Company and the Martha Graham troupe. He also worked as a bartender during 1984 at the Midnight Sun in the Castro area and baked delicious desserts for the catering companies Love at First Bite and Bon Appetit.

Settling in Los Angeles in 1986, Cox had completed studies at Pepperdine University and Santa Monica College and was working on his master's degree at the University of Southern California in professional writing. He also worked as an administrative assistant in the cashier's office at USC until retiring and discontinuing further educational goals in June of this year when his health declined.

An inveterate traveler, Cox spoke Latin and French and had visited all the countries in Western Europe as well as French Polynesia, Borneo and Mexico.

Tom Arrington

March 3, 1926–August 1990

Tom Arrington was killed by an unknown assailant at his home on Dolores Street. His last contact with family and friends was Aug. 9, when he called his brother, Robert Arrington, in Dallas. His body was found Aug. 21. The investigators in charge of the case are Carl Klotz and Frank McCoy at 553-1145.

Tom Arrington was born in Shreveport, La., and grew up in Tulsa, Okla. He had an undergraduate degree from the University of Oklahoma and a master's degree in dance and theatre from the University of Texas. After graduating from Texas, he went to New York City, where he studied and performed with the Mary Hickson School of Dance.

He later established Music Counselors, a theatrical managing agency. He was theatrical manager for his close companion, David London, and assisted Mr. London in his career move from Broadway singer to cabaret entertainer. This close relationship ended when David London moved to Las Vegas in the late 1960s. Mr. Arrington then moved to San Francisco.

While in New York, Mr. Arrington was president of two advertising firms, Arrington Associates and Couture Advertising. The latter firm was the agency for a number of fashion houses in New York including Bill Blass.

"He was a very gifted man," said Mr. London, Mr. Arrington's partner in the Couture agency, from his Las Vegas home. "He was the driving force behind the business and a very creative individual."

Mr. Arrington was a volunteer over the last 20 years with Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in the Tenderloin. He served as head usher and as a volunteer with the Glide Senior Network, a church program for seniors. More recently, he had been a volunteer with the California Association for Older Americans, 805 Howard St., San Francisco.

He is survived by his sister, Joann Sleichter of Crystal River, Fla.; two brothers, James Arrington of Minneapolis and Robert Arrington of Dallas; and many close friends in San Francisco.

Roosevelt (A.J.) Williams

Roosevelt Williams, also known as A.J. Williams, died peacefully on August 27 after a nearly 10-year struggle with AIDS. He was a man of many talents and experiences. He studied at the Julliard Conservatory of Music in New York. He starred in the San Francisco production of *Norman, Is That You?* He was one of the first men ever to be hired as a flight attendant for World Airways. He spent several years traveling around the world as an employee of TWA. He worked as the house manager of the Greek Theatre in Berkeley. He tutored disabled and minority students in mathematics and computer science at UC Berkeley.

He returned to the Bay Area in 1981 with a diagnosis of GRID (Gay-Related Immune Deficiency) — as it was known in those days. This began a ten-year struggle with AIDS, and also with TWA, which consistently refused to rehire him after the 1980 strike because of his medical diagnosis.

In the last several years, he became widely known as a speaker on AIDS-related issues and spirituality, and on the impact of AIDS on the black community. He appeared on KPX, KQED and other local television stations and was the subject of several magazine articles, a book and a documentary film. He was a plenary speaker at the National Conference of AIDS and Minorities in Washington, D.C. in 1989. He served on the advisory board of The Center, a spiritual resource center for people with AIDS/ARC. He was active in AIDS education throughout the Bay Area.

His gentle spirit, his reverence for life, his spiritual values and most of all his continual courage and optimism were the hallmarks of his character.

He is survived by his brothers and sisters: Brenda Bellamy, Steve Williams, Carolyn Pruitt, Richard Williams and Michael Williams, all from Oakland, and also a huge family of friends, who mourn his passing and feel grateful and blessed to have known him and have their lives touched and changed by his grace and spirit.

There will be a memorial service and celebration Sept. 8, 3 p.m., Bethany House, 8955 Golf Links Road, Oakland. People wishing to attend can call 540-1023 or 654-2594 for further details. Contributions in his memory may be directed to the AIDS Minority Health Initiative, Bethany House, The Center: A Spiritual Resource Center for People with AIDS/ARC, or Project Open Hand for the East Bay.

Timothy G. McInerney

Sept. 17, 1951–Aug. 24, 1990

Tim died at home in San Francisco in the presence of his roommate and friend, Keith McLaughlin, and surrounded by the love and support of his parents, friends, family and caregivers from the Coming Home Hospice.

Hardheaded and fiercely opinionated, Tim lived his life exactly on his own terms. He graduated from UC Irvine, and toured the world as a dancer and actor before settling in New York. There he continued to dance and act, and also worked as a dresser and a choreographer in numerous theatrical productions on and off Broadway. He returned home to California in 1988.

Tim's memorial service, attended by family and friends, was held Aug. 27. He was remembered for his positive outlook, enthusiasm and loyalty to those he cared for, and will be missed greatly by all who loved him.

Tim's parents, George and Margaret, have requested donations be sent to Coming Home Hospice, 115 Diamond St., SF 94114, so that the services provided Tim may continue to light the way for PWAs, their families and friends.

Mark Alexander Antill

Feb. 21, 1953–Aug. 13, 1990

Mark A. Antill passed away Aug. 13 after an almost two-year battle with AIDS and associated illnesses. He was at his mother's home in Loomis, Calif. His mother, Helen, and two sisters, Michelle and Sylvia, were present at his passing as well as a member of the Gay Hospice out of Sacramento.

As a native San Franciscan, Mark attended the Most Holy Redeemer School on Diamond Street. His favorite place to live, however, was in Coleman Valley next to Occidental, where he raised sheep for a number of years while commuting to work in San Francisco.

His ashes and urn were buried on the very farm where he raised his sheep, one of his wishes. Mark lived in and around the Bay Area and Loomis his entire life.

In July 1985, Mark joined the San Francisco Police Department as a police officer and was stationed at Southern Station at 850 Bryant Street. He was an honor graduate from the Police Academy.

As Mark became increasingly ill, the department allowed him to work in areas where he would feel the most comfortable and have less of a workload. He insisted on continuing to perform duties until April of this year when his eyesight and energy wouldn't allow the drive from Santa Rosa to the city.

Mark is best remembered by friends as being generous and insisting on instructing everyone on the plants, birds and ocean creatures while on nature walks.

Memorial services will be held Sept. 8, 10:30 a.m., at the St. Peter and Paul Church in Rocklin, Calif. (near Loomis and Auburn, Calif.).

Gabriel McDaniel

July 10, 1953–Aug. 26, 1990

Gabriel took his last breath in the arms of his partner, Sean Curry, very peacefully at home in Oakland. He made the transition into the New Light in the presence of his dear friends, David Devereaux and David Ernst.

Gabe taught us all what love and compassion are. Since his AIDS diagnosis in 1987, he became an active volunteer at the Center in Oakland. The love of Mother Theresa helped him to accept himself, and the fought the valiant fight.

Originally from Minneapolis, Gabe is survived by his father, Laurence, and sisters and brothers, Patricia, Barbara, Helen, Mary, Eileen, Joanne, Monica, Boniface and Jim. His family loved and encouraged Gabe throughout his illness.

A celebration of Gabe's life was held at his home in Oakland on Sept. 2. Gabriel, you are the wind beneath my wings.

Todd J. McCutcheon

Sept. 19, 1954–Aug. 17, 1990

Todd knew the botanical names of almost every plant and believed in baptism by tequila tonic ... but only in hot weather. He could turn a spoon and sugar packet into an assault weapon if brunch turned ugly.

He raised gorgeous orchids and wore leather to Dreamland ... though never at the same time. He never missed a punchline or the opportunity to deliver one; could cut you with his tongue and melt you with his smile.

The *Out of Africa* soundtrack could be counted on to reduce him to tears, though he slept through the movie. He was jeweler, gardener, cook, son, brother, uncle, friend, lover ... and just enough crazy. His family and friends treasured him.

Todd died quietly at home sometime before sunrise Aug. 17. We suspect that he was meeting Tim for breakfast and wanted to get an early start.

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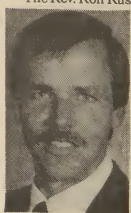
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The Reverend Ron Russell-Coons

July 8, 1948-Aug. 25, 1990



The Rev. Ron Russell-Coons died of AIDS at home Aug. 25 in the arms of his lover, Chuck. Also present were his friend and therapist, Gail; his housemate, Linton; and his three cats, Oolong, Earlene and Captain Floyd. He recently enjoyed visits from his parents, Ruth and Charlie; his brother, Darrell; and phone visits from his children, Julie and Joey. Originally a Southern Baptist minister, Ron pastored MCC churches in Sarasota, Baton Rouge and Seattle, where he was named pastor emeritus. In 1988 he joined the staff of MCC-San Francisco.

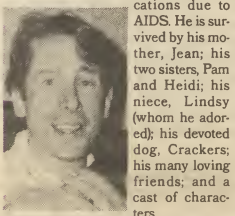
Even while a patient at OIS at R.K. Davies Hospital, Ron had a pastoral presence. His influence as a representative to the National Council of Churches is reflected in a book that the council recently dedicated to him. Ron's sermons will also be published by MCC-SF.

Ron often told his congregations, friends and community that "loving each other is a sign that God dwells inside each one of us, not out in the far off reaches of some external place. Heaven is in the heart."

Friends are invited to a celebration of Ron's life Sept. 8, 2 p.m., at MCC-SF. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to MCC-SF Russell-Coons Memorial Fund. ▼

Dean Reeve

Dean Reeve, playwright and director, passed away this August from complications due to AIDS. He is survived by his mother, Jean; his two sisters, Pam and Heidi; his niece, Lindsay (whom he adored); his devoted dog, Crackers; his many loving friends; and a cast of characters.



Dean's keen sense of humor and timing will be missed by all who knew him and knew his work. Dean recently wrote and produced two plays for the stage in San Francisco, *Last Supper* and *Bon Voyage*.

But perhaps his greatest contributions were his gentle nature and ability to inspire those in his life to follow their dreams. Dean's life served as a powerful example to others and encouraged them to grasp a new way of living. We love you, we admire your creativity and vision, and miss you immensely. ▼

Joseph "Joey" Padilla

Jan. 19, 1963-Aug. 25, 1990

Joey, on Aug. 25, you left us for the last time. When you did, you took our hearts.

Joey was taken from us by a boating accident. He enjoyed water skiing, he died doing it.

He chose to spend that day with his friends Jim Smithey (Mom), Ross Robinson, Dean Sullivan and his mate-in-life, Timmy Vickers. No one knew these would be the ones to see him alive for the last time.

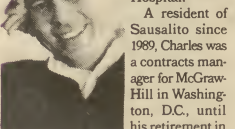
Joey — Mom loves and misses you as do your other friends. Funeral services were held Aug. 29. Some 400 people saw him off to a clean, quite happy world. Joey, we will be together again soon.

We love you. —Jim, Ross, Dean, Tim P.S. Please don't use any hair spray. ▼

Charles F. Nason

May 11, 1954-Aug. 28, 1990

Charles F. Nason, 35, died of complications associated with AIDS Aug. 28 at Davies Medical Center Hospital.



A resident of Sausalito since 1989, Charles was a contracts manager for McGraw-Hill in Washington, D.C., until his retirement in 1988. The son of a naval officer, he was born in Fort Eustis, Virginia.

He was a determined advocate for gay rights and served four terms as an of-

ficer and director of the Alexandria Virginia Gay and Lesbian Community Association. He played an important role in the 1988 enactment of a gay right ordinance in Alexandria, the first in Virginia. He was proud to be a native Virginian and was a member of the Board of Virginians for Justice, a statewide gay rights advocacy group.

Charles was an enthusiast of opera and Stephen Sondheim musicals. He was a masterful chef, gracious host and an expert gardener. He loved animals, especially his mixed-breed dog, Gandy.

He is survived by his lover of 13 years, Jay Clark of Sausalito (also from Alexandria until 1989); his parents, Charles and Joanne Nason of Johns Island, S.C.; two sisters and a brother.

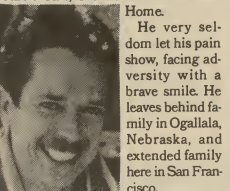
A memorial service and celebration of Charles' life will be held in Alexandria during October, details to be announced later.

Contributions in his memory may be made to Project Inform, 347 Dolores St., suite 202, SF 94110. ▼

Tim J. Spangler

Sept. 12, 1953-Aug. 30, 1990

TJ, crossed over to the other side suddenly from liver disease complications. He was known in and around town from his years of restaurant work at the Castro Cafe, Grubstake and Welcome Home.



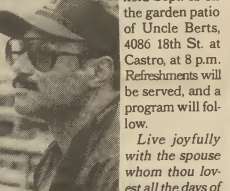
He very seldom let his pain show, facing adversity with a brave smile. He leaves behind family in Ogallala, Nebraska, and extended family here in San Francisco.

There will be a celebration of life and, TJ's favorite, "nude snot dancing," Sept. 22. Please call Jason at 474-8659 for more info. ▼

Wesley Charles Jackson

April 9, 1951-July 30, 1990

A gathering to celebrate the life of our friend, Wesley Charles Jackson, will be held Sept. 12 on the garden patio of Uncle Berts, 4086 18th St. at Castro, at 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and a program will follow.

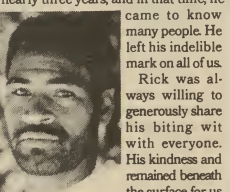


Live joyfully with the spouse whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which He hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity; for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labor which thou takest under the sun. —John Wesley King. ▼

Rick E. Hadnot

Sept. 2, 1958-Aug. 27, 1990

A unique and special person, Rick was a resident of San Francisco for nearly three years, and in that time, he



came to know many people. He left his indelible mark on all of us. Rick was always willing to generously share his biting wit with everyone. His kindness and remained beneath the surface for us to know. Rick had an amazing ability to be totally charming. His physical size, athletic body and smiling eyes were irresistible.

An avid tennis player, Rick was a member of the Gay Tennis Federation. He also played softball for the Pilsner team and was a regular at the pool tables of the Badlands.

Rick had only recently moved back to his hometown of Houston, Texas. He is survived by family members and will be missed by many friends and those of us who love him. ▼

Thad W. Dorsey

Nov. 26, 1948-July 26, 1990

On July 26, Thad touched those around him and smiled for the very last time. His courageous fight and robust spirit were as inspiration to us all.

Throughout his 3½ year fight with AIDS, he always managed to smile and entertain those around him. His wit, charm and wry sense of humor will be missed by us all, but most of all, he will be missed.

Thad requested that there be no ceremony, only that his remains be returned to his family in Ohio. ▼

Home

(Continued from page 10)

that life away from Castro Street was incredibly rich and varied. I began to read the *International Herald-Tribune* rather than the *Bay Area Reporter* and to discuss the Berlin Wall rather than AIDS.

This did not mean, of course, that former concerns no longer interested me. It only meant that those who had gone before were right — travel really does broaden one's perspective.

This may come as no surprise to anyone — but it was a disconcerting reminder to me, especially when I returned to a country which is essentially isolationist and one-dimensional and to a community which is protectionist and single-minded.

The first few days back in the U.S.A. after nearly four months abroad were quite a shock, and I couldn't help casting a far more critical eye than I had before on all that I had previously taken for granted. I was glad to be home; still, I felt aloof and slightly alienated.

When I attempted to analyze the reason for my sudden detachment, I realized that stories about Queer Nation and Miller boycotts seemed petty and provincial mainly because, despite the temptation to pick up my life where I left off, I couldn't abandon the lessons I had learned in Europe, and I continued to question the relative importance of my sexual identity.

This was hardly the first time I had addressed this question, of course. For years I had debated the influence of sexuality on my life. I even thought I had resolved the issue when I wrote that now-classic essay, "Dear Abby, Am I Too Gay?" back in 1984.

But, as with everything else, the role that sexuality plays in my life is constantly evolving. I fear I will never solve the matter entirely.

I am not the only one to ask these questions, to be sure. A reader who called recently to discuss my trip to Romania mentioned that he never felt "so free" as when he traveled in Europe for two months last summer. For the first time in years, he was seen "not as a gay white man but as simply a man." He enjoyed the freedom so much, in fact, that, after spending the last nine years in San Francisco, "a wonderful place to be," he and his partner are selling everything they own and moving to Europe — perhaps permanently.

"It's kind of scary," admitted Rob, the caller, "but we need a change, and Europe is as good a place as any to find one. The problem is that we're not real sure if this is a total escape or a progression. Undoubtedly, we'll find out sooner or later."

Undoubtedly. And when he does, perhaps Rob will let me know. Then, although I don't feel the same desire for such a profound change, at least maybe I'll know how to approach the rest of my life in a familiar, more limited environment. I may even decide whether to join Queer Nation. ▼

Letters: the liveliest community forum. Every week in the Bay Area Reporter.

HIV

(Continued from page 12)

for advice on how to patent it anyway.

Gripes

It is easy to find fault with just about any of the words used to describe AIDS and the people and conditions defined by it. While the word "AIDS" has remained, the definition has changed a couple of times and will have to do so again pretty soon.

My colleague Mike Hippler has eloquently described his dilemma as a low T-cell HIVer with a murky diagnosis. If he describes himself as a PWA, he can be challenged for claiming a distinction he hasn't earned; but if he says he's not a PWA, he can be accused of psychological denial.

My diagnosis is equally vague. I believe that I can legitimately label myself as an official person with AIDS on the basis of wasting syndrome — I lost about 25 pounds in the month preceding my diagnosis.

Technically, however, I can't prove this because I have no documentation of my weight change during that month.

On the other hand, I could probably claim to be a "healthy, asymptomatic HIV positive" if I found hard enough and tried a slipshod doctor. I don't have any obvious opportunistic infections, and the official definition of "ARC" or AIDS-related complex is so sloppy that you can drive a truck through it. Most doctors would label me a person with ARC.

My official title as a PWARC, however, was granted to me by the AIDS/ARC support group I attended in Orange County. For five minutes I was grilled on my lab indicators and clinical symptoms to see if I met the entry requirements for the group. Now that I think about it, I doubt that my reduced symptoms would gain me entry to that group if I were to apply

today; but a diagnosis of AIDS or ARC, once earned, can never be taken away.

Technical Quibbles

It is obvious to most people intimate with HIV that the official definitions of AIDS and ARC don't work very well anymore. AIDS, technically, is defined by the presence of HIV and one of the following three conditions: pneumocystis pneumonia, Kaposi's sarcoma or (added recently) wasting syndrome. But KS is now suspected of being a separate disease altogether.

Supposedly there's a progression from HIV-positive but asymptomatic, through AIDS-related complex, to AIDS. But many official PWAs are in fact much healthier than some PWARCs — especially if the PWAs were diagnosed with a mild case of KS that later went into remission. You can die from ARC without ever officially progressing to AIDS.

Despite this, the federal government automatically considers anyone diagnosed with AIDS to be "disabled," while PWARCs have to prove that they are disabled by listing specific symptoms.

My biggest quibble with the descriptions of HIV-related illness is that they focus so exclusively on the "sick" end of the spectrum. Thus, we have the most words for describing the smallest number of people affected by HIV.

Perhaps the second decade of AIDS will see the evolution of terms that are both accurate and respectful. Whatever these words are and however they come about, they will certainly reflect the social issues and struggles that have marked AIDS from the beginning. ▼

We need you.



Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Announces New Mycobacterium



Avium Complex Study

A Phase III Clinical Trial Of Rifabutin Therapy for the Prevention of Mycobacterium-avium Complex (MAC) Bacteremia in AIDS patients.

- Length: 2 years
- Cost: No cost to patients

BASIC INCLUSION CRITERIA:

- Subjects must be 18 years of age or older
- HIV positive with a CD4 count of 200 or less with a diagnosis of AIDS (The AIDS case defining infection must have been an infection other than MAC.)
- Administration of AZT and antipneumocystis prophylactic therapy for at least four weeks prior to entry into the study

BASIC EXCLUSION CRITERIA:

- Known hypersensitivity to Rifabutin, rifampin, other rifamycins, AZT or ddI
- Previous or current infection due to MAC disease

For more information contact: HIVCare Client Coordinator Drew Catapano at (415) 775-4321, ext. 2512. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.

Bay Area Reporter
Greater Bay News



Volunteers Ann Golding (left), Connie Dach of Los Altos and Greg Stein of Mountain View solicit participants.

South Bay AIDS Walk A Huge Undertaking

by Marv. Shaw

With 6 million people to reach in a four-county area stretching from Berkeley to Santa Cruz, Pete King and co-workers have a mammoth job in Walk for AIDS. King, the project's director, talked with the *Bay Area Reporter* recently about the promise and

the problems of bringing off this huge undertaking.

On Sept. 16 as many as 6,000 walkers, each sponsored by individuals and/or organizations for big bucks, will walk 10 kilometers through Palo Alto and Menlo Park in an atmosphere sometimes resembling a carnival to benefit 29 non-profit agencies need-

ing funds in their fight against AIDS. The organizations and their sponsors are in San Mateo, Alameda, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties.

Thirty-eight corporate sponsors, some pledging as much as \$20,000 each, have signed up, including IBM, Safeway, Hewlett-Packard Kaiser Permanente and Apple. Walkers have racked up \$900 or more apiece.

More than 5,000 walkers have already registered, but the goal is 6,000. King is confident that that number will

(Continued on next page)

(Continued on next page)

Greater Bay Briefs

Lesbians' East Bay Home Firebombed

The B Street East Oakland home of two lesbians was fire-bombed on Aug. 29 at about 8 p.m. "I was sitting in my bed, happy as clam, reading a gardening book, when I heard this whoosh. The curtains went up and flames went flying across the room. I yelled for my roommate and ran for the garden hose," said Malka Essock. She reports the loss of a stereo that was damaged in the incident. "I was very lucky that it wasn't me that went up in flames," she said. According to Essock, the arson occurred after an altercation with a young teen-ager, who she discovered in a yard of the lot where she lives. She says he young man was carrying a soda bottle with a paper wick, and that she thought it might be a Molotov cocktail. Essock ordered the youth from the yard, but when he jumped over a back fence, he began throwing dirt clods, rocks and finally a soda bottle at her. Essock reports that her roommate was beaten up and robbed six hours after the arson attempt when she went to a grocery store to make a purchase. "For the most part the people really care about this neighborhood. It's a good neighborhood. I love this neighborhood so much. I'm becoming scared about what going to happen," she says. According to Essock, there is a neighborhood youth gang that hangs out in an intersection close to her house, and that there have been anti-lesbian and sexist slurs, but those incidents have been minor.

— Dennis Conklin

— Dennis Conkin

Sunnyvale Mayor Resigns Council Seat

The mayor of Sunnyvale, Brian O'Toole, once considered one of the state Republican Party's brightest new stars, has resigned his City Council seat, his largely ceremonial office of mayor, and pleaded "no contest" to a felony charge of child molestation. O'Toole, 34, was charged on July 26 with a single count of lewd and lascivious behavior with a boy who was at the time under 14 years old. He had originally pleaded not guilty to the charge, but changed his plea on Aug. 31, with Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Peter Stone. The "no contest" plea functions essentially the same as a "guilty" plea, and O'Toole, who is free on \$5,000 bail, has been scheduled for sentencing by Judge Stone on Dec. 5. There was no plea bargaining connected with the change of pleas. The felony charge could mean up to an eight-year prison sentence and up to five years' probation. O'Toole will now have to register with local police as a convicted sex offender wherever he lives in the future. The boy, whose identity is being protected by authorities, is now 15 years of age. O'Toole was elected in 1983 to the City Council and in 1985, at the age of 30, was elected mayor — the youngest in the city's history. He is not married.

—Keith Clark

— Keith Clark

Tamalpais High Condom Plan Shelved

An effort started by students earlier this year to begin a free condom distribution program at Tamalpais High School was put on indefinite hold last week when the Tamalpais Union High School District approved a new required social issues and health course that distinctly does not include giving students condoms. The condom distribution program was first suggested by students at the high school earlier this year and won approval of the school's leadership team in May. After conservative parents objected, threatening to file a lawsuit against the school over the program, school district officials put a temporary halt to the program three days before it was to have gone into effect. At the time, district officials said they wanted to conduct a legal review of the program before making a decision about distributing condoms through a school health officer. In a subsequent suit aimed at halting the program, a judge ruled that since the condom distribution plan wasn't in place there was nothing for him to rule on. The newly adopted "Social Issues" curriculum is scheduled to go into effect for the entire district in the 1991-92 school year, although school district officials said they hope to have a pilot program in one of the district's schools next spring.

— Keith Clark

BAR TALK

The BAY AREA REPORTER is now offering a new 900 phone line with voice mail retrieval for adult personal ads at no cost to the advertiser. Just fill out the personal ad form below and return it to us for weekly publication. You will be given up to a minute to record a greeting for callers responding to your ad. An assigned private pass code allows only you to retrieve your voice mail. BAR TALK is a 24-hour service available only through touch tone phones. All information is kept confidential. It's just that easy!



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AIDS Walk

(Continued from previous page)

be reached, as he is that the overall goal of \$400,000 will be attained.

The starting and finishing point of the 10K walk is Frost Amphitheatre on the Stanford campus. Participants, helpers and onlookers will gather there at 8:30 a.m. for a light breakfast, followed by an aerobic warming-up exercise and the welcoming ceremony.

The walkers will follow a route down University Ave. in Palo Alto, turning at O'Connor in East Palo Alto, crossing to Willow in Menlo Park, going back south to Palo Alto Ave. and then to El Camino, down to Palm Drive on the campus and back to Frost Amphitheatre.

Entertainment, several bands, puppeteers, jugglers, face painters, etc., will be featured in the the campus parking lot as well at many points along the way. There is an easier 5K walk for those who cannot make the full route.

The Walk for AIDS recipients are all involved directly with helping those with AIDS: Project Open Hand and the Native American Health Center (Alameda); AIDS Legal Services and the Aris Project (Santa Clara); the Hospice Caring Project and Planned Parenthood (Santa Cruz); and ELLIPSE Peninsula AIDS Services and Coming Home Support Services (San Mateo).

The walkers make the major decisions about how the money is distributed, King asserted. They choose the agencies the money they have walked for will go to, and 40 percent of that money goes

there. Forty percent also goes to the region they are from, to be divided among all the agencies. Ten percent goes to specially chosen projects region by region, and the remaining 10 percent stays in the organization to fund preparations for future projects, including AIDS walks in succeeding years.

The seriousness of the AIDS epidemic is becoming better known outside San Francisco for obvious reasons. In Santa Clara County, the current count is 644 cases, with a fatality rate of 63 percent. In Alameda County, 1,234 cases have been reported, with a fatality rate of 58 percent.

Hopefully, by the time the walkers return to the Frost Amphitheatre for the closing ceremonies at 2:30 p.m., many thousands more will know about the seriousness of this problem, especially those observing along the route and those listening to one of the several radio stations broadcasting the event (KLIV, KRA and KSOL).

Participants are still being solicited. Potential walkers are urged to call 1-800-439-WALK (9255) for information. Sponsors are asked to call (415) 508-WALK or (408) 438-6383. ▼

Gallo

(Continued from page 17)

din while working in Gallo's laboratory.

The close relationship between Pan Data and Gallo's lab was widely known. Other researchers have told *Windy City Times* that they were encouraged by Gallo colleagues to use Pan Data for their own research and testing needs.

Kelberman said that the U.S. Attorney's investigation was continuing, but he would not disclose any subjects except to say that no other government employees were being investigated. That seemed to leave open the possibility that other people associated with Pan Data might be under investigation.

The separate investigation by Dingell's House Subcommittee is also continuing. According to Peter Stockton, the subcommittee is "satisfied with regard to Salahuddin," and is now "looking at Prem Sarin," Gallo's deputy lab director.

Stockton added that "we're keeping our eyes and ears open" with regard to Gallo himself and the question of "what did he know and when did he know it?"

According to Stockton, Gallo has given divergent accounts of how and what he heard about Salahuddin and his wife's involvement at Pan Data. At no point did Gallo, as lab director, report the possibility of impropriety to the NIH inspector general for possible investigation.

Salhuddin's departure leaves Gallo without one of his key co-workers. Salahuddin has been listed as a co-author on some of Gallo's scientific papers and he is, as noted, generally credited with discovering a virus called HHV-6 (formerly called HBLV), on which he first published in *Science* for Oct. 31, 1986.

Gallo has since attempted to link that virus to a more rapid progression of AIDS, but the link was recently refuted by researchers at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

Gallo's own work is the object of a separate, internal probe by the NIH. Gallo has been accused in recent books and a long article in the *Chicago Tribune* of appropriating HIV from France's Pasteur Institute and claiming the discovery as his own.

He is alleged to have backdated research, altered correspondence and altered or destroyed lab data so as to prevent discovery of his actions. ▼

Hate

(Continued from page 1)

"People have the freedom to put what they want on their home answering devices. There's not a lot that Pac Bell can do," Maita said.

However, Maita said, if the tape incites or causes someone to commit a crime, police can obtain a court order that would allow the phone company to disconnect the device.

The tape concludes with a Florida post office box number for interested parties to contact. It also includes a Judah Street maildrop box number.

The number of the hate line is 664-6604. ▼

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SF RECYCLING PROGRAM

GLAAD Organizing IN S. Bay

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, the national media watchdog organization with more than a dozen chapters around the country, including a highly successful — and bursting at the seams — San Francisco group, is in the process of putting together another Northern California chapter and creating a South Bay division of the organization.

With chapters already in the San Francisco Bay Area and in Sacramento, if the organizing group in Santa Cruz comes on-line, California would have four full-fledged GLAAD chapters with three in Northern California — the largest concentration of any state in the country.

Organizers in Santa Cruz held their first meeting Aug. 20 at the Lesbian/Gay Community Center, with about 20 people showing up to begin the process that leads to becoming a fully recognized GLAAD chapter.

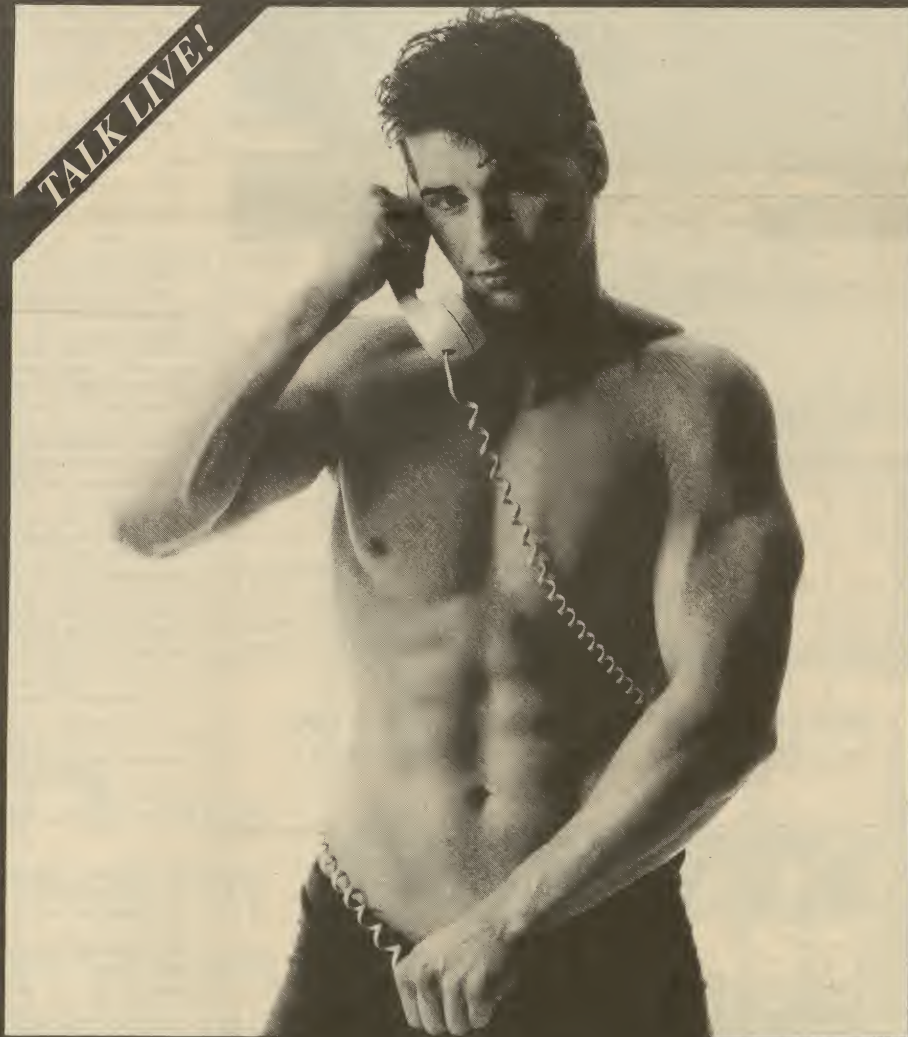
Neil Grungras, GLAAD-

SFBA's community relations chair who helped put together the initial Santa Cruz organizing meeting through the San Francisco group's mailing lists, said, "I was really pleased and excited about it. It was a good showing, and I was very excited about the fact that there were so many women there."

About three-quarters of the people attending the Santa Cruz organizing meeting were women. ▼

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Feinstein

(Continued from page 1)

based on sexual orientation or pre-existing medical conditions, and preventing cancellation of policies of people with AIDS;

6) increased educational efforts that are "age-appropriate and culturally appropriate" for ethnic minorities;

7) initiate an inquiry into drug pricing to prevent price-gouging for medications for which there are no alternatives;

8) and reactivating the state's dysfunctional AIDS commission that would report directly to the governor.

The 15-agency direct lobbying coalition is being

staffed and coordinated by the San Francisco-based Mobilization Against AIDS and was put together earlier this year primarily to lobby the California congressional delegation here in the state for increased federal funding of AIDS programs.

Mobilization's executive director, Paul Boneberg, had high praise for the Feinstein proposal.

"She issued a comprehensive statement," Boneberg said. "She prioritized treatment — particularly early treatment. She touched all the bases of all the things we wanted touched. And she even got into a discussion that indicates she understands the bureaucratic reform necessary for experimental treatment. I

think it was just what we were hoping she would do."

Boneberg said the lobbying coalition would still like to meet with Feinstein "to follow up on this with her and find out exactly what she's talking about," but in general he felt her general program was "exceptionally good."

"I think it's a clear challenge to Sen. Wilson to raise the issue," he said. "Wilson has been challenged ... and now let's see what (he) proposes on AIDS. I think the Feinstein partisans have done an exceptional job of putting forward a comprehensive program and having it articulated in the right setting by an obviously committed candidate. Now let's see what Wilson can do." ▼

NEZPAS

Strolling Through Sacramento

Sacramento Socialites (A "Riverfront" Nose?)

A couple of weekends ago my spouse and I drove up to Sacramento to spend the weekend with former Oakland "bon vivants" George and BJ. They went from apartment dwelling in the big city to lawn mowing and bread baking in the very heart of suburbia — and are happy as two clams can be out of water!

We did the tourist bit of walking Old Sacramento (restored old buildings and newly built "old" buildings) crammed full of merchants all vying for your legal tender to purchase authentic souvenirs and oddities.

Since the heat and humidity was rather intense, nothing would do but visit a couple of the local watering holes in our state capital. Faces, 2000 K St., is a popular place, with four full bars available when the crowd demands it — the main lounge, the video room bar, the disco room bar and the "corner/cloak room" bar.

The afternoon we were there, several drags and their escorts were imbibing prior to attending the Grand Ducal '50s Ball, "Hair Hop," at Tuesday Club Ballroom, 2722 L St. We, however, never made it that far.

After a few "before dinners" we drove over to the very popular Town House Bar/Restaurant, 1517 21st St., for some more "beefers" before dinner. The bar, lounge and pool room are downstairs, with the restaurant (complete with grand piano and pianist) upstairs.

We lucked out with a very presentable waiter named Michael, who made a most wonderful meal even more enjoyable. Please note: both the food and the service were sensational! For the "verbal and pictorial" artists, the tables are covered with butcher paper and complimentary crayons are provided for your indulgence.

No visit to Sacramento is complete without the traditional "drop in" at the Mercantile Saloon, 1928 L St. Some of the faces we saw at Faces earlier were here. Bar hopping is alive and well on the Sacramento River.

Amenable Obligation I (A "Statement" Nose?)

The In Memory Foundation Inc. issues this quarterly treasurer's report (combined checking and savings), as of Aug. 27, 1990:

Beginning balance (4/13/90)	\$8,607.10
Revenue:	
Car Raffle	\$5,375.00
Auction/Games	1,439.00
Donations	75.00
Bank Interest	71.34
Total Revenue	6,960.34
Total Assets	\$15,567.44
Expenses:	
Death/Burial	\$1,600.00
Game Day Expenses	531.00
Car Repairs	866.19
I.M.F. Flag	281.34
T-shirt Purchase	947.20
Bank Service Charge	21.40
Total Expenses	\$4,247.90
Ending Balance 7/16/90	\$11,319.54

Because of increased expenses for funerals and burials, the In Memory Foun-

dation has increased its bestowal \$100. Instead of the previous \$200, recipients will now receive \$300.

Amenable Obligation II (A "Tallying" Nose?)

"As promised, I wanted to send along some information to you regarding the benefit we had for Highland Hospital AIDS Clinic on Aug. 25 at 12th and Madison.

"To just say that the event was a success would be an understatement? Thanks to countless volunteers, and the enthusiasm from our auctioneer, David 'Totsi' Facio, and the I.S.E. members who lent us a hand, we raised a total of \$4,577.45, less expenses of \$61.35.

"A check will be presented to Dr. Kathleen Clanon, M.D., director of the AIDS Clinic, the amount of \$4,516.10 on Sept. 6, at the hospital. I can't thank you enough for your help too! You have been super ... I owe you one!

"Again, our thanks to you. "Most sincerely, Jim Ketchell, Associate Committee Leader."

Salamagundi (A Motley Nose)

In case you're curious as to where to cast your ballot for all the titles and offices of I.S.E., here's the poop! Voting will be held on Sept. 27 at Town & Country from 5 to 7 p.m., and at Driftwood from 8 to 10 p.m. The last ditch effort, if you will, will be at the Coronation itself on Sept. 29, for a limited time.

Many are called, but few are chosen department: down Modesto way they have something called the "Cock and Glo" Awards, and several from our local populace were invited to participate. Wouldn't you know that only one "of our own" even made the titles list? That one would, of course, be none other than Val Souza. She got her award for being the best "New Lay" in town. You figure it out. I wouldn't touch that one with a ten foot dildo!

The Casino Night at Big Mama's, Aug. 19, netted \$1,148, which was divided equally among In Memory Foundation, I.S.E., and the Alameda County Parade Contingent.

Entertaining at the piano bar in DJ's, Walnut Creek, for this month: on Fridays 7 and 21, The Beautiful "Rhonda"; Fridays 14 and 28, and all Tuesdays, Garth Steen; and, on all Saturdays, the renowned David Kelsey, don't you know. Starting time for all days is 9 p.m. — but, that doesn't mean you can't go in earlier and enjoy the ambience for an hour or so before!

Also in Sacramento, but no time to visit them — this trip! — are the Buff, Buffalo Club, Western Bar, Wreck Room, Gelato Robi, Incredible Edible and Joseph's Town & Country not to be confused with Oakland's Sam & Marv's Town & Country, don't you know!

Everything might have been different today if only one thing had been different yesterday, but I can smile at that. My count down gets nearer, Frumpy! Love, Nez. ▼

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Vain, Ruthless And Driven

New Play Looks at Last Days
Of the Infamous Roy Cohn

by James Tushinski

"My mother used to go shopping in New York with her cousin and one day the cousin said, 'We can't go shopping now Rose, we have to go to Brooklyn, we have something to do. There's a distant cousin of yours and mine. We have to ...' It turned out to be Ethel Rosenberg's mother. She was a very old lady at the time and she couldn't take care of the little boys. My mother loved children and she wanted to take the Rosenberg boys with her, to take care of them, but it didn't work out. My father objected because of money. They were adopted, though. One of the lawyers, I think. So I was always interested in Ethel Rosenberg."

Roy, the new play by award-winning playwright, fiction writer and longtime San Francisco resident Joel Ensana, centers around the last days of the infamous gay Republican mover and shaker, Roy Cohn. Best known for the part he played in Ethel Rosenberg's execution and his role in the House Un-American Activities Committee hearings, Cohn died in 1986 from opportunistic infections brought on by the AIDS virus. Vain, ruthless and driven, he vehemently denied that he was gay and that he had AIDS. Until the very end, he clung to the desperate hope a cure would be found so he could resume his life of power, influence and boys.

★ ★ ★

What first got you interested in *Roy Cohn*?

I was working on a musical in Los Angeles when the two books about Cohn came out.

(Continued on page 36)



Fred Franklin re-enacts Roy Cohn's performance at the Senate McCarthy hearings in *Roy*, opening at Theatre Rhinoceros Sept. 8.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

HOMOSEXUALITY IN OLD JAPAN



This 18th century image of homosexual love from a *shunga* erotic roll-painting was produced in response to a commission by a wealthy patron.

by Steve Abbott

The colonial powers of Europe spread homophobia not only to America but around the world. Persia and Japan both had long homosexual traditions that were virtually annihilated by an internalization of Western values. The thesis of Tsuneo Watanabe's book, *The Love of the Samurai*, however, is that it was not only Christianity but rather the decay of the samurai spirit of *bushido* and its masculine aesthetic that spelled the end of the *shudo* form of Japanese homosexuality. His idea was so provocative that Watanabe couldn't get his book published in Japan, and found his first publisher in France.

To my knowledge, there's not much published in English on Japanese homosexuality, either. There's Mishima's work, some of which describes contemporary Japanese gay life, and I recall a lengthy historical essay in the *Gay Sunshine* newspaper. But when I

went back to look at my old copies, all I could find was a 1977 interview with the homosexual Japanese poet and novelist Mutsuo Takahashi.

Ian Burma has an interesting chapter in his book *A Japanese Mirror* (1984) which links homoeroticism in contemporary Japanese comic books and pop culture with the samurai tradition of *shudo*, and the first *Out/Look* magazine had a fine essay on contemporary gay life in Tokyo by Paul Shimazaki. But Watanabe's book is the most extensive historical record in English so far as I know.

Watanabe is a psychologist rather than a historian but he includes excerpts from essays by Jun'ichi Iwata, who he says was the greatest historian of Japanese homosexuality until his death in 1945.

The book begins with a section on Jesuit missionaries to Japan such as Francis Xavier who deplored "the sin of sodomy" which he found was widely accepted in 16th century Japan. Fortunately for

(Continued on page 44)

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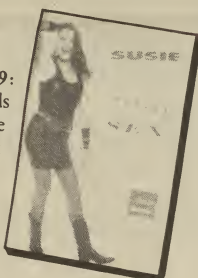
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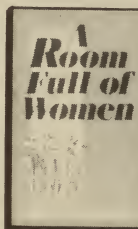
Saturday Sept. 8:
Steven Petrow reads from
 and discusses "Dancing
 Against the Darkness," his
 eloquent look at several
 faces of AIDS, 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 9:
Susie Bright, sexpert, reads
 from and discusses "Susie
 Sexpert's Lesbian Sex
 World," our summer best-
 seller blend of wisdom
 and humor, 3:30 p.m.



Also:

Short story writer (author of "Horse") and *Bay Times* Columnist, **Bo Huston**, Los Angeles author **Matias Viegner** and Chicano poet **Francisco X. Alarcon** ("Cuerpo en Llamas/Body in Flames") read their works, 7:30 p.m. (Gay Writers Series)



Saturday, Sept. 15:
Elizabeth Nonas ("For Keeps")
 appears to read from and auto-
 graph her second Naiad novel, "A
 Room Full of Women," 3:30 p.m.

and:

David Leavitt,
 author of "Family
 Dancing" and
 "Equal Affections," reads from and
 signs his new short story collection,
 "A Place I've Never Been,"
 7:30 p.m.



Saturday, Sept. 22:
 A party to celebrate "Hard Plays/
 Stiff Parts: The Homoerotic Plays
 of Robert Chesley," with the
 author reading sections and signing
 copies of this new collection of
 stage scripts. One part of the many
 festivities celebrating Leather
 Week, 3:30 p.m.

ART NEWS

Partial Victory for Gay Artist In Suit Against Right Winger

by David Hirsch

Just as one court case con-
 cludes for mixed media
 artist David Wojnarowicz,
 another begins.

On June 25, Wojnarowicz's legal suit against Donald Wildmon and his ultra-conservative American Family Association (AFA) was heard in Manhattan. At issue was an AFA pamphlet consisting of 14 tiny segments, some containing homoerotic content, severely cropped from Wojnarowicz's larger pieces and glued together. These fragments were labeled as complete artworks that had received support from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Two hundred thousand copies of this pamphlet were mailed across the country, including to all members of Congress.

In court, Wildmon testified that the details (in one case, representing 2.5 percent of the total surface of the work) were "photos that spoke for themselves" and that they made him sick to his stomach. He also stated — under oath — that he was so ignorant of art that he was unable to distinguish between a portrait and a collage. This comment was meant to prove that his down-home ignorance absolved him of any intentional malice in misrepresenting or destroying artworks.

Judge William C. Conner closed the trial by commenting that the "plaintiff has established that the pamphlet misrepresents works of the artist, with likely damage to the artist's reputation and to



David Wojnarowicz, seen here in the film *Silence Equals Death*, sued a right-wing group for altering his artworks.

works." He issued a preliminary injunction which prohibited further distribution of the AFA pamphlet. Wildmon's lawyers retorted that this was an infringement of their Constitutional right to freedom of speech.

New Mailing Required

Judge Conner has just posted his decision. Wildmon will be required to mail out a new pamphlet to all those who received the original contested broadside that explains the

distorted nature of the images. The ruling makes clear that the original pamphlet constituted an inaccurate representation of Wojnarowicz's artwork.

The judge ruled that a New York State law protecting artists' authorship had been violated. Four other counts against Wildmon, including the charge of libel, however, were dismissed. Conner states that there is no actual evidence of monetary

(Continued on page 60)



Can You Dig It?

"The political right is trying to legislate a cultural agenda," says video artist Chris Robbins, a spokesperson for the upcoming time capsule project sponsored by the Bay Area Coalition for the Freedom of Expression. The group will bury a time capsule containing what it calls "examples of endangered art" in the lot next to the San Francisco Art Commission Gallery on Grove Street near Van Ness.

"There will be works by Kathy Acker, Mark Pauline, gay photographer David Wojnarowicz," Robbins says. "Gay sculptor Michael Brown crafted the capsule itself."

Pictured above is the mixed media work, "In Flagrante Delicto," by Peter Englund.

"We really are involved in a cultural Civil War," Robbins concludes. "The capsule is symbolic of our insured First Amendment rights."

The ceremony, complete with talks by local artists, will take place Friday, Sept. 7 at 6:30 p.m. As of press time, no lesbian work had been scheduled for inclusion.

"We are still looking," stressed Ms. Robbins. Interested gay and lesbian artists may contact project coordinator Michael Lumpkin at 861-5245.

— by Kate Bornstein



Carole Shorenstein Hays in association with
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Richard Thomas Nathan Lane

in

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FILM

Deft and Playful 'Privilege'

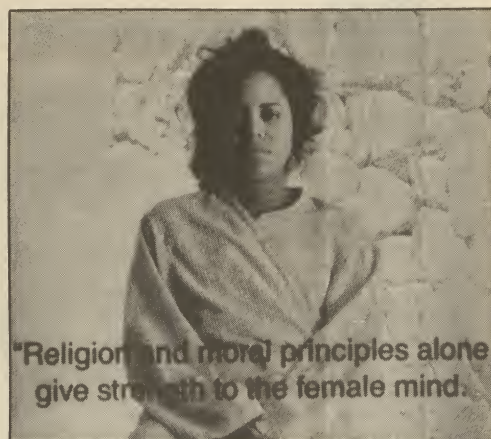
by Warren Sonbert

America's foremost pro-feminist and pro-lesbian filmmaker, Yvonne Rainer, will be appearing in the Bay Area with her work in the coming weeks. Her newest film, *Privilege* (selected for inclusion in the upcoming and prestigious New York Film Festival), will be shown at Berkeley's Pacific Film Archive on Thursday, Sept. 6, and then for three days at the Roxie, Sept. 11-13 (with Rainer in person on both first nights).

For five Sundays at the San Francisco Art Institute, presented by the Cinematheque, a complete retrospective of her previous features will be shown. The filmmaker will be present at the first of these events, Sept. 9, when her *Lives of Performers* (1972) will screen.

Rainer's credentials are fairly staggering: She was recently awarded a MacArthur "genius" grant for \$300,000-plus — only two other filmmakers in its history, Errol Morris and John Sayles, have ever received this boon. When the final credits roll for *Privilege*, the list of grants and awards contributing to its funding include an NEA, an AFI, a Rockefeller, a Guggenheim.

Lesbians and feminists will want to flock to the upcoming showings of *Privilege*. The nominal narrative concern here seems initially to be about menopause, but gradu-



A scene from feminist filmmaker Yvonne Rainer's latest film, *Privilege*.

ally the film takes on the larger feminist political agenda. This deft and playful work blends seamlessly the techniques of the narrative and talking heads documentary film for a surprising composite of unexpected turns and juxtapositions.

Like the recent Sandra Bernhard-John Boskovich collaboration, *Without You I'm Nothing*, Rainer explores the heroine's black alter ego persona — here represented by two interviewers named Yvonne — Rainer and Washington. Black and white '50s documentaries are intercut throughout with men doctors

blithely and cornily espousing out-of-date medical and social views regarding menopause. The emphasis is on the false denigration of a woman's body that comes with age and the equally bogus woman's reliance on men's opinion.

Issues concerning people of color, spouse abuse, rape, and physical and spiritual independence from men for women are duly trotted out in all their fastidiously up-to-date finery. To give Rainer her due, she's not above poking a bit of fun at herself in some gently self-mocking moments. At the wrap party fi-

Reclaiming the Hidden

by Karl Bruce Knapper

As part of its September video program, "No Boys, Artful Toys and Photographic Ploys," the Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley will be screening two pieces by lesbian videomakers Kaucyila Brooke and Jane Cottis: *Dry Kisses Only* by Brooke and Cottis and *This Is Not Not a Very Blank Tape, Dear* by Cottis.

Dry Kisses Only (1990) is an 80-minute investigation into the lesbian subplot (or more often subtext) in classic Hollywood cinema. "Theory Woman," a satiric caricature of a snootily affected academician, gives the viewer a meticulously thorough and tedious (and oh-so-funny) theoretical exploration of the lesbian content, no matter how scarce or buried, in these presumably heterosexual films.

A New Eroticism

Brooke and Cottis use critical theory to search for representation or a place for lesbians within the Hollywood movie. By "slashing" old and new films, they re-edit images to create and reclaim a new eroticism that was missing (or hidden) in the original and reveal the "truth" behind the deflected love affairs and subtexts of women's filmic relationships.

Besides examining or rearranging the narratives of films like *All About Eve*, *The Haunting*, *Pandora's Box*, *The Hunger*, *The Killing of Sister George* and *Madchen in Uniform* to reveal their subterranean lesbian texts

and the "unconscious logic" propelling these submerged gender dramas, the video combines comedic skits, pseudo-documentaries and personal anecdotes to humorously illuminate its subject.

Highlights include "lesbian on the street (and on the beach)" interviews where lesbians comment on their representation in film, a woman discussing her G.A.S. (Gender Anxiety Syndrome), two lusty lesbian vampires (Dykella and Dykenna) indulging in a bloodthirsty exchange on vampire stereotypes and gossip columnist Lady Manilla Lively giving us the inside scoop on celebrity lesbians like Jodie Foster, Kelly McGillis, Whitney Houston, k.d. lang, Dolly Parton, Tracy Chapman and Linda Evans.

Best of all is the creation of a lesbian counter-narrative for *All About Eve*, in which Eve's story and introduction to Margo Channing are cleverly replaced by a lesbian's tale of her lover lost during World War II.

Lesbian Taboos

This Is Not Not a Very Blank Tape, Dear (1989) is a 20-minute video, at times both serious and funny, about the relationship between a mother and daughter. A personal and experimental narrative, the video explores the personal and societal taboos surrounding lesbianism that undermine the communication between these women as they fumble through their strained and entangled relationship.

While not as satisfying as *Dry Kisses Only*, *This Is Not*



Frames from *Dry Kisses Only*.

Not a Very Blank Tape, Dear is an interesting take on mother/daughter relationships and how they both reflect and inform our society's reaction to lesbians. The mother discovers her daughter in bed with another woman, and this precipitates a re-examination of their familial relationship. The whole predicament is parodied by a female psychoanalyst, lesbian commercials, various manipulations of the mother's voice and the daughter's musings on her own internalized homophobia. ▽

Dry Kisses Only; This Is Not Not a Very Blank Tape, Dear
 Pacific Film Archive
 Sept. 13, 7:30 p.m.
 642-1124

A 'Kiss' to Build A Scheme On

by Warren Sonbert

Bruno Barreto's Brazilian film *The Kiss* (1981), begins as a scathing indictment of homophobia in contemporary Rio de Janeiro society, but by its climax, seems itself to succumb to prejudice and misguided convention.

A happily married middle class worker, Arandir, witnesses a stranger run down by a bus. Arandir kisses the young man in his dying moments. This happens offscreen, before the film begins, and throughout the course of the film we hear all sorts of variations on this incident. The individual stories develop out of the various axes each of the eight leading characters has to grind.

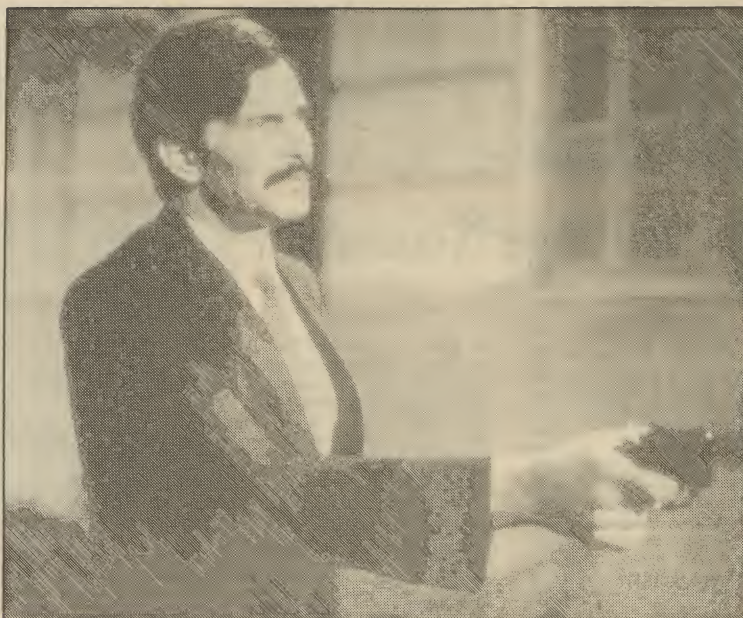
The police and the press are trying to deflect the populace from a brutality scandal within the law enforcement

ties (accident victim's wife, Arandir's father-in-law) into constructing a plot — as bloated and farfetched as the film's — in which not only were Arandir and the victim long-time lovers but that Arandir actually murdered his par amour in cold blood and made it seem like a casual accident.

Rabid Cross Section

Meanwhile we get to feast on the delectation of a rabid cross section of bourgeois society (neighbors, office co-workers, children) variously berate and humiliate Arandir, and the tabloid journalists have a field day blowing each morsel of the scandal out of all reality.

Somehow this updated version of *These Three/The Children's Hour* rings false in '80s Rio (I'd always assumed Rio to be one of the bastions of gay freedom — or at least a



Tarcislo Meira plays Aprigio, a repressed gay man who becomes unhinged at the end of Bruno Barreto's *The Kiss*.

Despite its narrative ambivalence, *The Kiss* is an eminently watchable, cinematic work.

setup (not unlike our president's sidestepping the S&L fiasco with the Gulf War).

So they venally bribe and blackmail the concerned par-

high lavender profile).

We are also led down the garden path with Aprigio, the father-in-law. Throughout the film his apparent incestuous

obsession with his daughter and subsequent hostility to Arandir are encouraged as motivating factors.

There is a sort of double reverse at the end that I won't detail here, other than to say that, in this film's methodology, gay love would seem only able to find its proper expression in Death.

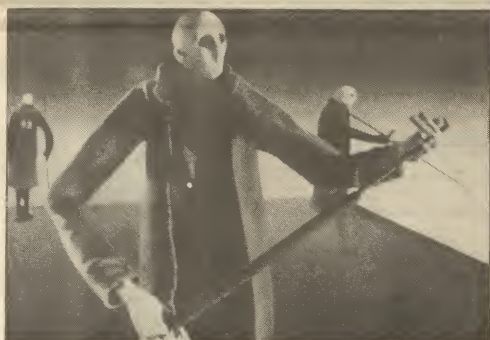
This is a throwback to Rod Steiger as *The Sergeant* — the love that dares not speak its name is also responsible for the death or destruction of the likable, good, straight lead

characters. As in the bad old days of the '50s and '60s, the gays here are the crazies, the neurotics, the murderers, the destructors. Or really rather the *only* gay character, the only gay identity figure.

Despite its narrative ambivalence, *The Kiss* is an eminently watchable cinematic work. There are some dazzling POV (point of view) plays and the camera, during a kitchen long take on a back and forth swivel, acts like a hypnotic charm. The domestic scenes have an offbeat, ca-

sual realism and the portrait of Rio makes its squalid mark. Barreto as well, to give him his due, isn't exactly enamored with homosexuality's alternative: the film is decidedly misanthropic and anti-humanitarian. At 80 minutes, the curious, inveterate filmgoer will likely find *The Kiss* worth a trip to the York. ▼

The Kiss
York Theatre, Sept. 12-18
282-0318



Scene from *Balance*, in "Tournée of Animation" at Castro.

Mixed Animated Bag

by Warren Sonbert

The XXII International Tournée of Animation" must have the longest title for the shortest amount of real cinema in film history (though I must admit to unfamiliarity with all 21 of the previous Tournées).

Six films and a total of 26 minutes of good stuff (out of a possible 19 films and 110 total minutes) perhaps isn't all that disgraceful considering how uneven anthology fests — animated or otherwise — often are. Unfortunately, of course, the good is so intermingled with the mediocre or, worse, painful, that the life is sapped even out of the worthy.

I recall kiddie matinees at which "30 Color Cartoons" was the efficient tyke lure though, in the event, by the time No. 17 rolled off the projector, we budding hoodlums were all content to throw in our security blankets.

But here it's not the case of too much of a good thing but rather too much of a flaccid roundelay. Among the highlights:

Three sets of Bill Plympton's "Plymptoons" distributed throughout the program are wry and sly New Yorkerish sight gags that while short on fluid animation are long on wit. Canada's *A Touch of Deceit* by Michel Gagne is Disney darkening from bad Window Pane. I enjoyed the boogie energy of oil paintings on the move in Nathaniel Hornblower's *Shadrach* with music by the Beastie Boys.

Intriguing 'Balance'

The West German entry, *Balance*, by twin brothers Christoph and Wolfgang Lauenstein, was originally made in a modest 16mm format but went on to win the 1989 Oscar for Best Animated Short (that's heartening news

(Continued on page 39)

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Women's Rituals: A Source Book
by Barbara G. Walker; Harper and Row, \$11.95

by Kris Kovick

I'll tell you what pisses me off about rituals and crystals in two words: Louise Hay. You know what I mean: the idea that you can only heal yourself if you are thinking the right thoughts (e.g., "I love my anus") and if you don't heal, then you are not sufficiently meditating on the truth and, therefore, responsible for your physical ill-being.

Crystals: if you can buy 'em on Market Street, then I wonder about their spiritual potency. New Age stuff worries me because there is always the possibility of blaming (if not bilking) the victim.

However, my editor gave me two pieces of advice: 1) take it seriously; and 2) mention the book in the review.

So, OK, you can always be in better touch with your emotions and that is a life-affirming process. What Barbara Walker gives us in *Women's Rituals* is an honest approach to healing the hurt of heteropatriarchy.

Attn. K-Mart Shoppers

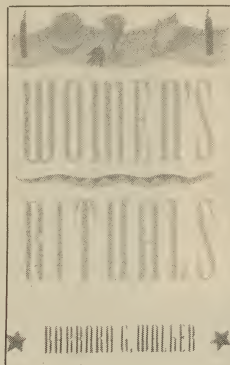
Barbara Walker wrote a bunch of other books for the candle and sandal folks, and

she refers to them often. This isn't exactly major logrolling in our time, but it is tiresome nonetheless. My biggest complaint about her book — I think it is a bit over-tedious — is niggling when compared to how useful it is.

The "Ultimate Fantasy" section begins by chastising us for our consumeristic little thoughts and then guides us through a materialistic daydream/coronation of the big spin winner in a K-Mart with no exit. It is the vision of Pat Montclair and Jerry Coletti's love child in Vegas.

Was Walker channeling Mary Daly when she wrote the feminist version of the Cinderella story (as depicted in the "Storetelling" chapter)? This is one of those post-modern remythologization deconstructions we've been hearing so much about, a trail mix of wishful thinking, herbal tea and matriarchal politics.

But forget all that. Her book is an absolute *must* for all teachers, therapists, queens and political groups. If you want to empower the meek, teach patience to the bold, and generally encourage sound thinking, read and teach this book. Go to the sec-



tion called "Talking Stick."

Hand Me Down My Talkin' Stick

The talking stick comes from a Native American (which one?) ceremony. A sacred object (a rattle or a stick) is passed around the circle. Only the person holding it may speak without interruption until finished. "Those not holding the stick could practice silent restraint, and marshal their thoughts for orderly presentation when their turn came round again."

This is good for those too retiring to break into lively conversation. "Quiet individuals often have a lot to say when handed the talking

(Continued on page 60)

Heroes and Wannabes

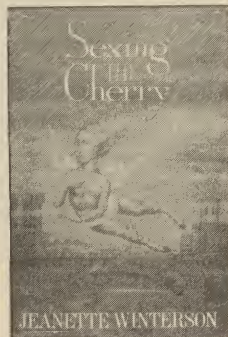
Sexing the Cherry
by Jeanette Winterson; Atlantic Monthly Press, \$19.95

by Kate Bornstein

Did my childhood happen? I must believe it did, but I don't have any proof. My mother says it did, but she is a fantasist, a liar and a murderer, though none of that would stop me loving her. I remember things, but I too am a fantasist and a liar, though I have not killed anyone yet.

So speaks Jordan, one of the main characters in Jeanette Winterson's new novel, *Sexing the Cherry*. Jordan and his mother, known simply as the Dog Woman, guide us through a fantastic prose poem which crisscrosses the dimensions of both time and space, from the 17th to the 20th centuries, seducing us into experiencing a woman's rage as well as a man's angst.

The style of the novel is clearly reminiscent of Brigid Brophy, with dashes of Virginia Woolf, Gertrude Stein and Terry Gilliam. Many stories ("The Twelve Dancing Princesses," "Artemis and Orion," "The Tower of Death" and "The City That Outlawed Love") are woven



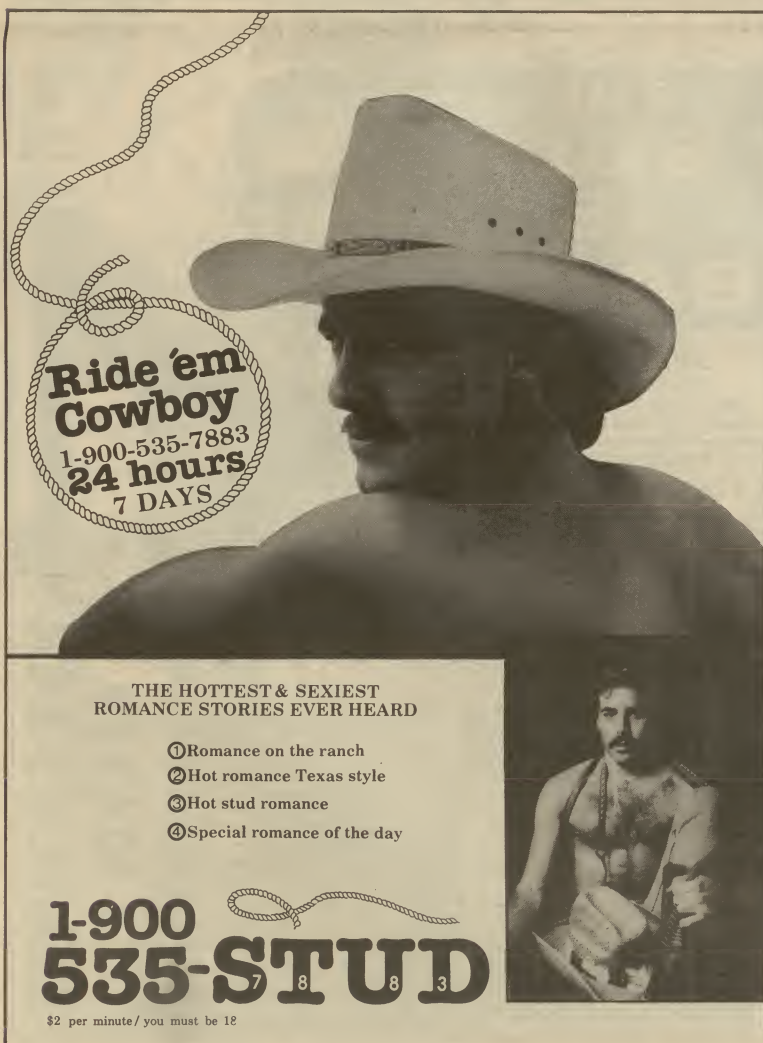
together in the fellow traveler tradition of Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*.

A Hero Light and Dark

I don't hate men, I just wish they'd try harder. They all want to be heroes and all we want is for them to stay at home and help with the housework and the kids. That's not the kind of heroism they enjoy.

The female protagonist/mother/activist is, in fact, a true hero. Not the kind of hero who gets the glory —

(Continued on page 50)



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Tart, Racy Mystery

A Body to Dye For
by Grant Michaels;
St. Martin's Press \$7.95

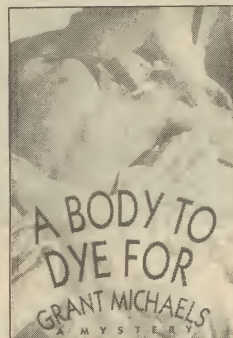
by Marv. Shaw

In this boom time for the gay mystery genre, it had to happen sooner or later. The amateur catapulted into detecting had to be a hair stylist. It is to Grant Michaels' credit that his sleuthing hairbender in *A Body to Dye For* has both the sensitivities of his craft and the balls to impel him into atypical daring.

Stan Kraychik, a Bostonian of Czech ancestry and the star hairdresser of Nikki Albright's salon, is putting highlighting on the hair of the arrogant architect Calvin Redding when Roger Fayerbrock, a Yosemite Park ranger in Boston on obscure business, strides into their lives. He has been invited to stay at Calvin's but still invites Stan to drop by.

When Stan does, he finds Roger's stripped and muscular body inert on a bed and Calvin on the verge of hysteria. Each accuses the other of the murder, and then the law, in the supermacho form of Lt. Branco, enters the case.

Stan must scramble to establish his innocence, and that drive evolves into a passion to find the murderer. His efforts lead him to Harvard Square, a slick, snooty architectural firm and even to Yosemite Valley. The tactics involve brazen deception, rock climbing, breaking and entering, and getting beaten up.



The supporting cast contains the usual suspects — especially a tough, overweight woman architect with a voice toned by nicotine and bourbon — but most have a marked individuality as well. An especially intriguing one is the golden-skinned Indonesian, Yudi, the dead ranger's former lover. The most consistently amusing is Nikki, Stan's exasperated but ultimately supportive employer, with whom he has much campy, bitchy, funny dialogue.

The straighter talk also rings true most of the time, except in the final two chapters, when Michaels seems too eager to wrap things up.

One truly original touch is Stan's sharp nose for scents. Every time another aroma hits his nostrils, the novel flashes into another dimension of reality. And altogether, with its many other shrewdly selected elements, *Body to Dye For* has the tart, racy smell of success.



New & Novel



Shallowest Depths

In Memory of Angel Clare
by Christopher Bram; Plume, \$9.95

by Dennis Harvey

Bram's accomplished third novel (following *Hold Tight and Surprising Myself*) in a way out-distances the bracket of "AIDS fiction" simply by its perversity — it's distinctive enough to say something other than a rote note of mournful plague-era personal chronicling at a



Christopher Bram

point when Subject A no longer need, and maybe shouldn't, dominate every page it surfaces on. When an issue becomes so entrenched for the long-term in so many lives, one ought to use it as a pathway to the human condition rather than vice versa.

Yet the "something" it says ultimately owes everything to AIDS. *In Memory of Angel Clare* is in many ways about grief and loss, but as viewed through figures so self-consumed and essentially shallow that they can only think of those emotions in terms of their own burdens and frankly tired sensitivities. This fact might make for something corrosively interesting in a different authorial context, but Bram's problem is that, for all his technical polish, one can't tell whether he actually means for us to find his characters as devoid of empathy as we find them — or whether he's simply miscalculated rather horribly.

Michael's Muddle

The setup is simple. Michael, a 23-year-old former student, has set aside his academic "career" and just about anything else for a three-year relationship with a man who's died as the book commences. That man was "Angel Clare" Clarence, a 38-year-old former drifting NYC aesthete just on the brink of really making it as a feature filmmaker (via a schlock horror film even he'd found cheesy, *Disco of the Damned*), when his life was abruptly terminated by AIDS.

Having lived virtually his entire gay/sexual existence to date in Clarence's bed and Manhattan apartment, disowned by his family, Michael post-mortem has worked up no identity in his life save through

the friends of his late lover. Friends who, being of an earlier generation, and with careers and households and whatever the future holds to occupy their thoughts, never really much warmed to the boy who now seems a discomfiting and rather pious, arrogant flag bearer of memory to their late intimate, and has the gall to assume he still has a place in their lives.

After a glimpsed, revelation-less holiday in Europe on estate money, Michael returns to haunt the friends of Clarence he'd come to consider his own, for lack of any other resource: film critic Jack, whose sexual awakening took so long it left him a resentful near-celibate; cooing lesbian pair investor Laurie and counselor Carla; activist Ben and actor Danny, who seem to sustain their relationship via endless harping at one another; and the honorary straight couple, artist Peter and musician Livy.

All (aside from the self-pitying single Jack) hermetically sealed into coupledom, these are people you might be pleased enough to know casually, but who wouldn't reflect all that well on you if they comprised your first tier of intimates. Perhaps hampered into protective shells by the white noise of NYC living, they've all retreated into buffer zones of self-righteousness and carefully, almost clinically measured regard for one another.

One might understand the relatively pitiless way each individual rakes the other over the coals of understanding better if we saw that they at least used to love each other, or that they have replaced these supposed affections with new deeper social connections. But Bram doesn't provide that thread. These people misunderstand each other even when trying to be sympathetic. Their ties are the cool, formal ones of those who feel obligated to stay in touch with others they used to have some feeling (even bogus) toward.

Condescending 'Friends'

Arrogant and unable or unwilling to communicate his true (but still not very flatteringly profound) feelings, Michael drifts back to New York to find these people he'd considered his "friends" giving him a politically correct form of cold shoulder. A year and a half after Clarence's death, they read Michael as an obnoxious puppy begging for sympathy as Most Aggrieved. They want to preserve their own, longer-lived memory bank of the late Clarence and to get on with their own lives; they don't want cold yet somehow demanding Michael grumbling around tacitly reminding them that no one else loved him as much.

Pressing this rejection to his chest like an award, Michael embarks on a wild and



pathetic drunken night on the town, which in the dawn's early light results in an attempted drastic solution enacted less out of genuine despair than a desire to get back at the mean older people who didn't take his grief seriously enough.

Bram summons up what is, I suppose, meant to be a sort of happy ending, with everyone newly dependent on one another. But we don't grow to like any of these people, and their ways of condescending toward one another (barely skirting active disdain) leaves every interaction palled by a shallowness of spirit. If Bram is attempting some kind of autobiographical exorcism of guilt-ridden non-grief, that's one thing (and could be done better); if he means us to truly identify with any of these

(Continued on page 50)

Isolate's Downfall

Kingfisher Weather
by Paul Binding; Gay Men's Press, \$10.95

by Marv. Shaw

The misunderstood, unappreciated young male who also fears he's unlovable is something of a staple in modern fiction. Add homosexuality to the mix and an author might very well feel that he has a representative figure. Sometimes that's true: witness Will Aitken's Ben McCaverty in *Terre Haute* and John Gilgun's Steve Riley in *Music I Never Dreamed Of*. Paul Binding has a shot at the same objective in *Kingfisher Weather* but goes wide of the mark.

Binding's Rob Peters has always felt unwanted by his family and vaguely out of place with his teenaged mates in the little Essex, England, town in which he was raised. He helps out in his family's cafe, flounders in school, and finds solace in the observation of wild life. At school, there is a lonely art teacher, twelve years his senior, who also shares an interest in nature. They see, at one point, out in the wilds together, the flashing fight of a kingfish and Binding obviously means that as a symbol.

The true symbolic value is never really clear, however,

and unfortunately that lack is typical in this faulty novel. The central relationship between the incipiently gay Rob and the confirmed heterosexual Laurie is a desperate misconception.

As an assistant cook and waiter on a cargo/passenger ship, the vulnerable Rob gets seduced by Pete, a lascivious Filipino deckhand, then is traduced into a guilt-haunted Christian conversion by the hypocritical evangelist Bill Bently.

The actual chronological development is rather murky because Binding cuts back and forth between shipboard and hometown, also shifting the point of view back and forth from Rob to Laurie. Adding even more improbability are some of the minor — and stereotypical — characters, especially an upper crust British twit and a coarse, bossy American matron.

But the biggest disappointment is Binding's protagonist. Rob is a shallow, surly, unappealing kid, about whom we care less and less as the narrative bumps along. His monstrous acts increase, and whatever sympathy we might have had for him vanishes.

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Vain, Ruthless and Driven

(Continued from page 29)

I really connected with him because we're about the same age and I also had to cover up. I was Jewish and gay. I couldn't get jobs, not only because I was gay but because I was Jewish.

But we're entirely different, too. I'm liberal and he was conservative Republican. He was extremely ambitious and he just really hated himself because he thought being gay got in the way of his being president or senator. He was just a mess.

Then I thought, there's so much more here, not just Ethel Rosenberg and the McCarthy hearings, but it's about being gay now, coming out of the closet now. Roy Cohn really could have helped gays, being a big Republican and all, but at the end, when he died of AIDS, it was pathetic.

He was a pathetic character. I don't think he believed he was going to die. He figured that with all his money, something's going to happen. This medicine will work. This will be the miracle drug. He was a horrible person.

But if you're a nice person you're going to feel compassion for him. He's a victim of AIDS, just like so many other people are. Maybe some peo-

ple, like I say in the play, wished and prayed he'd die. There were people who hated him so much because he did ruin many lives in the McCarthy era. He used Ethel [Rosenberg]. That was his first big case. That's how he

"It's about ... coming out of the closet now. Roy Cohn really could have helped gays, ... but at the end, when he died of AIDS, it was pathetic."

got on the McCarthy hearings. He used Ethel just like J. Edgar Hoover used Emma Goldman.

Did you have any firsthand experience of the

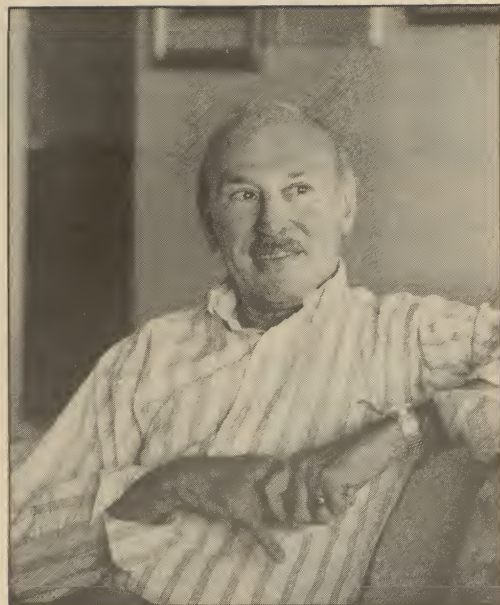
anti-gay climate people like McCarthy and Cohn created?

I was in the Office of Intelligence in the Air Force. I lived in Tokyo for a year and a half and there were purges all the time. Word would get around. Two WACs were arrested. We had to lay low, so we wouldn't go to the bars for about a week or so. It was an awful feeling to be a second-class citizen. We were the hardest workers in that office and we had to watch every move we made. It makes you feel like crap.

What sources did you use? Did history conform nicely to a dramatic structure or did you have to embellish?

It easily fit, plus like I told you, Roy and I are about the same age. I went through all those periods with him, like the '70s — New York, Studio 54 and all that — and the McCarthy hearings. So it was kind of easy for me, this one was. I found I could get easily into his character. Being Jewish. I've written a lot of plays about the New York Jewish scene especially because I'm from back there. I'm from New Jersey.

As far as sources go, of course the book *Citizen Cohn* and the other books. Then I



San Francisco playwright Joel Ensana wrote *Roy*.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

went to the library and did a lot of digging up. *Esquire* and *Life* had articles. I was living in the LA area for two years and I met a lot of people who knew Roy. There was this rich Jewish doctor who used to trade boys with him. Roy would say, "Oh, I have this boy," and he'd fly him out to this doctor.

I wanted to show he was a very sexual person. He loved sex, and he really didn't hide it that much. There were boys around him all the time. Barbara Walters saw these boys, Steinbrenner — they all saw the boys around but because he was Roy, they just put it out of their minds.

Have you encountered any legal problems?

No I haven't. I was kind of hesitant about using Barbara Walters' name, but then a book came out, her biography. It mentions Roy all through it. How he helped her get the child. You know, the adoption. He used to date her in college. She was a wonderful friend to him. When she found out he had AIDS, she stood by him. I checked it all with a theater lawyer in LA and with the Dramatist Guild lawyer. And the part about the nurse in the hospital is all fiction. The historical part is just his dreams. Let's talk about Roy's fictional nurse at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda. Jules is quite blunt and almost nasty to Roy, but at the end he breaks down and cries.

At first when I was writing this I thought the nurse was really the other side, what Roy should have been. Jules is also Jewish and gay, but he's liberal and he's more of a mensch, a human being, who understands and feels. He even feels for Roy Cohn at the end. He says, "You're family."

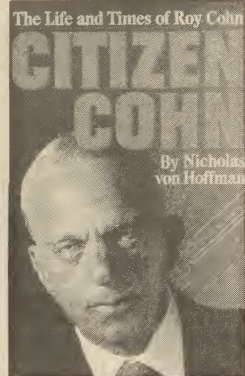
Sure, he's nasty to Roy some times but only because he wanted to speak out. He wanted to be heard. Jules is the one who does all the speech making about AIDS and gay politics. When he cries, I don't think he's crying for Roy. He says he's crying for all those other people. At the end of the play he's holding a man who has just died. You can't help being moved by death. I know when I lost my lover ... well, he was older than me, much older.

Death is so final. That's the

end and that's it. Jules is a nurse and he sees it all the time, but every time I'm sure he cries. He's really not crying for Roy, although he probably saw deep down inside there's a little human being in Roy. Jules might be excusing him. If you're ambitious, if you want money, you'll stop at nothing. It's a kind of society where we all stop at nothing.

How would you describe the impact that AIDS has had on your writing?

I think I'm leaning more toward writing about gays now. Writing about the whole situation. Because I agree with the young people who say, "Silence Equals Death." I really do. Jews learned that a long time ago. That you can't be silent. People say, "Oh, we're tired of the Holocaust, we're



Nicholas von Hoffman's *Citizen Cohn* detailed Roy Cohn's gay and political sides.

tired about hearing about that." And it's true, but you can't let people forget because they'll just start it all over again.

I wanted the audience to feel compassion for all people with AIDS, but not just people with AIDS. I want them to see something bigger than Roy. Roy is just a person...just a character, a complex character, but there's more to it. When I went to see *Death of a Salesman* at ACT with a friend, he broke down and cried. He was so depressed because that was his father ... Willy Loman was his father ... it all came back to him. That's what I think theater should be.

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The Razor's Edge

by Mark Finch

Like many public service writers, I have often longed to start a column with the words: "A reader writes," but unlike my lusty and multi-talented colleague Warren Sonbert, up until now no one has spent 25 cents to contest the wisdom of this reviewer. Finally, a letter delivered to these offices offers the opportunity.

A reader writes: "There is something I have been curious about for some time regarding Falcon Pac productions. I think that they have some really handsome well-endowed young men in their films, but can you tell me why all the balls and asses are shaved?"

Mr. Smith (not his real name) goes on to add, "I find hair to be very erotic on men and particularly in the crotch and anal areas."

Receiving typewritten inquiries about body hair is a notch above anonymous phone calls asking for Joey Stefano's home phone number (no, I don't have it), so I'm happy to help. Maybe we can even work it into a controversy for the letters pages.

I forwarded the question to a couple of porn production companies renowned for their gusto with a razor. Here are their replies.

The Bottom Line

"The bottom line is that hair tends to imply age, smooth bodies imply youth," explained the friendly, first-name-only publicity manager of In Hand Video, Sabin. "A fresher younger-looking face just sells better. Older men want younger models."

There's something else too: "The market for hardcore pornography is to see what you're getting. Everything's clean and shaved. I agree, though, it's like a doctor's office."

Not like any doctor's office I've been into, Sabin.

Warming to the subject, he suggested that Mr. Smith might be misled by porn video packaging.

"Often they'll put a young thing on the front, or they'll shave a model who's actually hairy in the tape."

So, look for titles with usually hirsute hunks like Sgt. Swan, Chad Douglas, Chad Johnson, Sergio Calucci, or porn's most highly rated hairy model, Ray Stockwell.

"J.D. Slater used to be very popular too," Sabin added, thoughtfully, "but now his hair is disappearing up top."

It could happen to you, Joey.

Bill Clayton, marketing director for Falcon, was less conspiratorial.

"Shaving is done throughout the business, it's so viewers can see better. Anyway, it's not so much that we shave bodies. It depends on what comes along. Most of the fellas are mid-20s to mid-30s and it's what comes down the pipe."

Bill and Sabin both neglected to mention the obvious: that a trimmed, plucked or shaved groin always makes a lad's credentials look larger.

"Gay people will always complain," said Bill, starting to sound a bit miffed. "It's probably the hardest group of consumers to please on this planet. And if I made videos

just for the San Francisco market, I would be broke."

"Any company that lasts has got to make middle-of-the-road movies that appeal to a country-wide audience."

"If I made videos just for the San Francisco market, I would be broke."

— **Bill, Falcon Video**

I liked Bill: he's a capitalist.

"God knows," he added, exasperated, "if you can find anyone with hair on their balls and butt in San Francisco, I'll kiss your ass and you can name the time and street corner."

This is a challenge that

Mr. Smith might like to rise to.

Meanwhile, as a special reader service, for one issue only, this column will use the internationally-accepted hair-rating system for its porn reviews.

A Complex Drama

On to *Painted*, a new release from Sabin's company, In Hand. It's a complex drama set in the bohemian world of artists and their bedfellows, and far more true-to-life than those PBS documentaries on modern masters, or anything you've ever seen about The Bloomsbury Set.

Petite, barefoot Ricky Van is a typical struggling artist. We know he's struggling because throughout the tape he barely adds more than a brushstroke to his fifth grade cartoon of what looks like his gym trainer.

He's also beset by personal problems. His girlfriend, the very credible Sharon Kane, complains that he's more interested in art than sex, and leaves him. She, of course, is more interested in sex than art; this is obvious from the Gatorade-green stretch boob tube she sports.

Fortunately, delivery boy Storm stops by with some



Ricky Van dresses up as "Karen" to seduce his girlfriend in *Painted*.

sympathy, and persuades Rick to fuck him. While they're at it, Sharon's friend, big-tongued Mistress Jacque-

line, drops in and adds a dildo to the deal. Jacqueline is also more interested in art

(Continued on page 60)

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Holly in Her Own Voice

Fire in the Rain ... Singer in the Storm: An Autobiography
by Holly Near; William Morrow; \$19.95.

Singer in the Storm
by Holly Near; Chameleon Music Group

by Noreen C. Barnes

All my life I have gone out on a limb, but I have turned the limb into a bridge, and there is clear, cool water flowing under. The world is a challenging lover, and I, helplessly in love.

Holly Near wrote her autobiography as she celebrated her 40th birthday, but the book begins by looking back from 1984, when she was 35. This was what might be called a "watershed" year for Near — she had an unusually heavy performance schedule (150 concerts), and she was physically ill (excruciating back pain that nearly crippled her), and mentally/spiritually exhausted — on the verge of complete collapse.

Since that time, she has healed both body and soul, coming through both "fire" and "storms" of various kinds, and in her story offers a portrait of someone who has drawn strength from a very supportive family as well as a number of partnerships created through her music, unwavering political commitment and peace activism.

Near's writing is best when she takes the time to dwell on a particular topic or period of time, such as the "Free the Army" tour she did

in the early 1970s with Jane Fonda and Donald Sutherland, or the women's music tour in 1975 with Margie Adam, Meg Christian (who would become her first woman lover) and Cris Williamson.

Of the first lovemaking with Christian, Near writes, "I was making love to her and to myself and I was essentially and forever changed by the experience. This will be my memory, but lesbians will smile and straight women may wonder if it is not time to give themselves the gift of self-love." This three-and-a-half-year relationship put Holly's recording company, Redwood, and Meg's collective, Olivia Records, at interesting odds with each other.

Singer in the Storm also contains interesting anecdotes about her tours, particularly her numerous international ones, and her stories of women connecting across borders, and her discoveries of lesbian life — "feeling torn between the left and Lesbians" — are very moving.

Years of Struggle

She gives her account of the first years of struggle of Redwood (now the non-profit Redwood Cultural Work) — literally a mom and pop operation (as her parents

were the bookkeepers for the operation from its inception) — and the subsequent difficulty in staffing and operation when it expanded.

Near wrestles with racism, sexism and homophobia in her growing political consciousness and personal life — both feeding the songs she creates by herself or with several special collaborators. She provides an emotional account of the 1987 National March on Washington and the unfolding of the Names quilt:

My insides screamed, "Ragan, why aren't you here to confess and apologize? You have committed the equivalent of genocide. Weep for your sins, be here with these children of God if they'll have you, hold them without the farcical insult of rubber gloves."

Is She or Isn't She?

There is, at the center, the enigma of Near's lesbian identification — the "Is she or isn't she?" question — an issue absent from interviews and articles on her in more mainstream publications, but one she tackles for a good portion of this book.

And she has received pressure from all sides, demanding to know what she considered herself to be: "I couldn't bear the idea of hurt-



An autobiography and a new recording for songsmith Holly Near.
(Photo: Irene Young)

ing lesbians, and I couldn't stand the thought of heterosexuals celebrating my relationship with a man as if somehow they had won, and I could not bear the possibility that people would think I was straight. ... I still thought of myself as a lesbian, which was not altered by sleeping with men. I didn't give men that kind of power, nor did the sort of men I was with ask for it." Near feels "too closely linked to the political perspectives of lesbian feminism" to be considered bisexual:

My lesbianism is not linked to sexual preference. For me, it's part of my world view, part of my passion for women and central in my objection to male domination... The doors must always be open.

But Near's identification as a lesbian, while not central to her, still matters a great deal, as she points out: "Anyone who says, 'Well, I

don't care if he/she is gay, it's nobody's business' is the voice of heterosexual culture inviting gay people to be invisible. Well, heterosexuals don't keep it to themselves. They have proms and weddings and anniversaries, get breaks on insurance and health care. They are all over each other on billboards, in movies, and at football games. You bet it matters to them."

And a New Album

The selection on her new album — a recording of a concert performance — reinforces the idea of her "cultural work" in its range of old and new pieces, songs of liberation for Central Americans, women, blacks and gays, and the love of women for women.

Her duet with Mercedes Sosa — whom Near describes as "a woman of earth and sky... a grande dame from Ar-

(Continued on next page)



Michelle Malone & Drag The River

Michelle Malone and Drag The River
Relentless
■ Big Black Bag
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Gay/Lesbian Programs

AIDS and Nutrition

Wednesday, Sept. 12, 9 p.m., SF Viacom 6: Presented by Caremark Connection. If we can be of any assistance prior to or after the program, feel free to call our nutritionist, Lynda Bell at 864-6960.

Deep Dish TV

Monday, Sept. 10, 8 p.m., SF Viacom 25: A new weekly program of interest to lesbians and gay men. Part 4 of *The Empire Strikes Out*, focuses on white hate groups and the tradition of resistance to them.

Helping Hands

Monday, 7 p.m., SF Viacom 6
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., SF Viacom 6

Messiah Theatre Presents

Friday, 10:30 p.m., SF Viacom 25: John De Messiah and entourage create a whirlwind video montage on the cutting-edge of gay artistic expression.

Here to Stay

Thursday, Sept. 13, 10 p.m., SF Viacom 25: A chat with camp drag rock group Acid Housewife; information on the Folsom & Castro Street Fairs.

Outlook

Tuesday, (1st) 10 p.m., Sacramento Cable 63
Wednesday, (1st, 3rd) 9 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, East Bay)
Thursday, 8:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30; (4th) 6:30 p.m., SF Viacom 6
Friday, (2nd, 4th) 7:30 p.m., Los Altos, Cupertino Cable 30; (2nd, 4th) 5 p.m., San Jose Cable 2B

Electric City

Sunday, 10 p.m., SF Viacom 35
Tuesday, 10 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Wednesday, 8 p.m., SF Viacom 35

Hibernia Beach/Rubyfruit Terrace

Sunday, 7 a.m., KITS 105.3 FM: Issues of concern to gay men and lesbians alternates every week.

Fruit Punch

Wednesday, 10 p.m., KPFA 94.1 FM: News, interviews, reviews.

The 'Bridge' Back

by David Taylor-Wilson

His highness has returned in grand form to reclaim his throne. And what a return it is.

Graffiti Bridge is a musical preview of Prince's upcoming film by the same name, which is said to be a sequel to his first film, *Purple Rain*. It contains 17 tracks that will, without a doubt, reassert Prince's domination of popular music, much like his *Purple Rain* soundtrack album did.

Once again we are swept into the mind of Prince and transported to a world where there are no barriers, no prejudices, no wars. On Planet Prince, everyone lives forever. Everyone enjoys life to the fullest. Everyone is loved. And best of all, everyone knows how to dance their ass off.

Worth the Wait

Since his *Purple Rain* album, Prince has delved into other styles of music, testing

the waters of various other formats. However, we all knew that sooner or later he'd return to his funk roots. We'd just have to wait.

Graffiti Bridge is a rompin', stompin' piece of funk-filled euphoria that explores every facet of Prince's many talents. His musical genius is stamped indelibly everywhere. His sexual boldness permeates each and every selection, and his yearning to find the perfect lifetime companion is still strong.



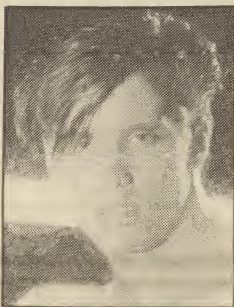
Jennifer Holiday

Our favorite single is "New Power Generation," which brings Prince into the '90s in full control. In true anthem style, the gospel according to Prince is declared: "Lay down your funky weapon! Come join us on the floor! Making love and music! The only things worth fighting for!"

Prince's vocals are hauntingly evocative as he searches for love on "The Question of U." His guitar riffs scale new heights.

Guest Stars

Morris Day and The Time



Paul "Boom Boom" Lekakis

appear on four tracks. On "Release It" they party long into the night, but not before first laying down a few house rules: You've got to take it all off — and no tight asses allowed. On "Love Machine" you find out that there's no need to bathe; just dial up your favorite perfumed scent and the mechanics will take care of the rest.

Also making standout appearances here are Mavis Staples, formerly of The Staple Singers, and new singing sensation, Tevin Campbell.

Ms. Staples throws down unrelenting vocals on "Melody Cool," where she makes it perfectly clear that she's been around and seen it all, so there's no sense in trying to put one over on her.

Tevin Campbell has been pegged as music's next superstar. He definitely has the talent and the right backing. On "Round and Round," Prince has created for Campbell a perfect dance number that will elevate him to household name status.

Graffiti Bridge is going to be a big album for Prince. The number of possible hit singles here is staggering. We guarantee that this release will go right to No. 1.

Fast Forward

We've got the inside scoop on some upcoming releases that you've been asking about. Whitney Houston's new album, *I'm Your Baby Tonight*, is scheduled for Oct. 23. Hall and Oates are back Oct. 9 with their debut album for Arista Records, *Change of Seasons*. Expect a



Prince is back with a new soundtrack album and a film to go with it: purportedly a sequel to *Purple Rain*.

return to their soulful roots.

Carly Simon's new project, *Have You Seen Me Lately?* is due Sept. 25. Jennifer Holiday's freshman effort for Arista Records, *A Dream With Your Name on It*, will hit the streets Oct. 23.

Coming in September from Capitol Records is the second release from Tracie Spencer, *Make the Difference*. Later this month from the Warner Bros. stable is *Hot Times*, the long-awaited new album from Gwen Guthrie.

George Benson returns

with *Big Boss Band*, which features The Count Basie Orchestra. Paul "Boom Boom" Lekakis will round out the month with *Tattoo It*. That should tie up your pocket books for a while.

Beats Around the Bay

We will be doing another guest deejay night appearance at the Bench and Bar in Oakland Sept. 8. We've been having a lot of fun there lately. Stop by, say hello, and be prepared to party. ▼

Animation

(Continued on page 33)

for all small-budgeted filmmakers). And of the longer films on this bill it is overwhelmingly the best — though neurotic, pained and little fun in a typically angst-ridden Teutonic way. Stick figures on an abstract platform in space battle for a precarious "balance" amongst one another: an intriguing minor masterpiece.

My favorite work of the series is a tie between Joanna Priestley's *All My Relations* and James Richardson's *Cat & Rat*. The former is gorgeous to look at, daffily original in texture and a keen send up of life's narrative frustrations while the latter is a disarming (in quotes) treatment of the typical cartoon Tom and Jerry hijinks. What's a successful cartoon extravaganza without a cat chasing a mouse?

Don't force me to go into the lurid details of our new pal the Soviet Union's maudlin *The Cow*, an exercise in shameless sentimentality, or Yugoslavia's *Pictures from Memory*, which features endless drawings of hanging bodies, concentration camp victims, sensationally detailed war crimes (Bring the Kids!). *A Warm Reception in L.A.* has a catchy track but the visuals outstay their welcome and the concept is relentlessly conventional. Too many of the works are surprisingly sexist and violent. France's *Giselle Kerozene* deserves an X rating and is as inviting as *Total Recall* or *Darkman* — well, at least it could provide Mick LaSalle with his weekly dose of multiple orgasms... ▼

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Near

(Continued from previous page)

gentina," of two of the album's four songs in Spanish, is a marvelous complement of their contrasting sounds.

Included are the classic "The Great Peace March" (written for the cross-country march which took place several years ago), "Icicle Blue," which she wrote for her mother, and her moving trademark anthem, "Singing for Our Lives."

Different styles are reflected: in the Latin-influenced "Sing to Me the Dream"; the catchy "Sun Won't Stop," that reveals her musical roots; the gospel/soul of "Ella's Song," with the powerful line "we who believe in freedom cannot rest until it comes." Harriet Tubman" (Lifetime) is equally rousing; then Near moves back to ballad format on "Don't You Worry."

This album sums up Near's life and work as no other recording of hers has — a perfect companion to her autobiography. ▼

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The Russians Are Coming!

by George Heymont

One of the smaller yet fascinating repercussions of the Soviet Union's willingness to adopt a policy of glasnost and perestroika has been the ability of Soviet artists to accept more engagements in the West. Last fall, the San Diego Opera mounted a production of Mussourgsky's *Boris Godunov* featuring several Soviet artists. This summer, as part of the cultural activities complementing Ted Turner's 1990 Goodwill Games, the Seattle Opera engaged several singers as well as Bolshoi conductor Mark Ermler for its stunning new production of Prokofiev's *War and Peace*.

For obvious reasons, the summer months are rarely a good time to experience Russian opera in the United States. Most Russian works require huge choruses, mammoth productions and are extremely difficult to market to mainstream audiences during the traditional fall-spring opera season. Yet, this summer, two rather daring re-

gional opera companies achieved stunning artistic and financial successes with the Russian repertoire.

Tsars in Your Eyes

The Blank Performing Arts Center in Indianola, Iowa, is a most curious theatre. The audience sits in a horse-shoe formation surrounding a dish-like forestage. Behind the forestage lies a Bayreuth-style orchestra pit. Two side ramps connect the forestage to the theatre's main stage. Many years ago, when Robert Larsen (artistic director of the Des Moines Metro Opera) asked opera expert Boris Goldovsky what he could possibly do with such a bizarrely-designed theater, Goldovsky's answer was short and sweet.

"Flood it and turn it into a skating rink!"

That should explain why the initial thought of seeing a gargantuan work like *Boris Godunov* staged in this 485-seat theater seemed absolutely preposterous. And yet, the performance I attended in Iowa this summer delivered one of the most pleasant sur-

prises I've had in 25 years of attending opera. Why? Usually, the mammoth musical and dramatic dimensions of Mussourgsky's opera create an overwhelming gulf between the performers and audience (particularly if this opera is performed in Russian without Surtitles).

However, with DMMO performing *Boris Godunov* in English and the cast practically sitting in the audience's lap, the physical dynamics of this production transformed Mussourgsky's opera into an acutely personal intrigue in which the chorus, rather than the Tsar, took on the starring role. Special credit goes to chorus master Harold Evans, whose hard work paid off in spades.

This production was very much an ensemble effort on both sides of the footlights. Under the artistic guidance of conductor/director Robert L. Larsen, DMMO's apprentices populated both stages with remarkable dramatic impact. Crowd scenes took on an immediacy and flavor unlike anything I've experienced in other productions. More inti-



Mussourgsky's *Boris Godunov*, performed by the Des Moines Metro Opera.

(Photo: John F. Schulz)

the throne (Garry Grice) declared their love, the performance took on the lush romanticism of a French opera. Moments later, when Rangoni commented sarcastically on their union from the forestage, Kimm Julian's stunningly stentorian solo became a riveting moment in musical theatre.

With limited backstage space and minimal stage machinery, many set changes took longer and sounded noisier in Iowa than those encountered in larger, more technically sophisticated theatres. However, for a small regional opera company working in a tiny theatre, this was an artistic achievement to be cherished for years to come.

Valuable cameos came from Mark Kleinman's Prince Shuisky, Edward Bogusz's Pimen, Anne Larson's Nurse and Wayne Crannell's Simpleton. William Walker and Christopher King appeared as the two rambunctious vagabond monks, (Varlaam and Missail), while Harry Dworchak, singing the title role for the first time in his career, acquitted himself handsomely as Russia's ill-fated Tsar.

Epic Event

Those fortunate enough to attend a performance of the Seattle Opera's recent staging of *War and Peace* know that this stunning new production was the undisputed artistic highlight of the 1990 summer season. Sonya Friedman's Surtitles made it possible to follow Tolstoy's complicated plot without ever getting lost.

Stage director Francesca Zambello (who, in previous years has relocated Beethoven's *Fidelio* to a Latin American banana republic and Rossini's *La Cenerentola* to the Hollywood sound stage where a Busby Berkeley movie musical was being filmed) scored a major artistic triumph with a production of monumental theatricality.

Aided by John Conklin's inspired unit set, Bruno Schwengl's costumes, Vassili Sulich's choreography and Neil Peter Jampolis' phenomenal lighting designs, Zambello staged Prokofiev's long-nemate moments seemed so fresh and invigorating that I found myself wondering if they hadn't been imported from another opera! When, in

Act III, Scene II, Marina Mnichek (beautifully sung by Kathryn Garber) and Grigori/Dmitri, the pretender to glected masterpiece in such a way that people in the audience could only shake their heads and wonder why so much excitement had been missing from the operatic stage for so long. Imagine Broadway's Tommy Tune focusing his magic on Tolstoy and you'll have an inkling of the cinematic sensations Zambello brought to the operatic stage.

Of the principals, Vladimir Chernov was an ardent Prince Andrei, Julian Patrick a forceful Napoleon and Stella Zambalis a youthful albeit porky Sonya. Although Peter Kazaras delivered an extremely sympathetic characterization of Pierre Bezukhov, it was Sheri Greenawald's Natasha which embodied the artistic spirit of this production. Her profoundly moving performance ranged from supreme vocal lyricism to dramatic steel while displaying an uncanny ability to move like a dancer when caught up in Natasha's romantic reveries.

Talented artists like Joseph Frank, Steven Cole, Shirley Harned, Loretta Bybee, Sheila Nadler, Philip Skinner, Stephen West, Victoria Vergara, Alexander Morozov, James Hoback, Miroslav Romanchuk and Archie Drake appeared in multiple roles. The chorus, under George Fiore's able leadership, lent a miraculous sense of vocal and dramatic power to the production.

Seattle Opera's *War and Peace* was the first opera production ever to be videotaped for release in high definition television (HDTV) format. Insiders insist that this revolutionary process will allow future TV audiences to get a true feel for the director's stage concept and that, once HDTV penetrates the home market, this new technology will profoundly improve the visual resolution and dramatic quality of live operatic telecasts.

If HDTV does indeed become the next best thing to being there, I'm sure that opera lovers who missed out on the Seattle Opera's *War and Peace* will leap at the opportunity to atone for missing this historic production. ▼

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GAY GAMES

Bay Area Marathon Team Kicks Butt

by Dave Studach

In a triple loop of beautiful Stanley Park (with an adjacent jog out to the Aquatic Center and back), the San Francisco/Bay Area marathoners made an impressive showing, garnering one gold, five silver and five bronze medals, three fourth places and two fifth places. We should be especially proud of our women's team for contributing one gold, three silver and four bronze medals plus two fourth places and one fifth place to the list above.

Only hampered by heat on the well laid out, 26.2-mile course, Ian Nash of Melbourne, Australia, led the field with a very respectable 2:33:23; followed by Patrick Barker, New York, in 2:43:50; and Gilles Boucher, Courbevoie, France, in 2:45:06.

Leading the women was the ever-steady Debbie Chaddock of San Diego, clocking 3:05:09; Char Levitt, representing the Virgin Islands, in 3:09:12; and Peggy Morsch of Port Washington, in 3:10:26; followed by our Donna Hinshaw of Half



Team San Francisco Marathon Team in Vancouver.

(Photo: Rod Doby)

Gay Games Marathon Results

Women's Division

Age 19-29

Silver 3:21:55 Tanya Savory, SF
Bronze 3:45:09 Marg. Antonetty, SF

Age 30-34

Bronze 3:31:17 Brooke Shields, SF
Fourth 3:45:10 Pamela Hofsass, SF
Fifth 4:02:47 Lois Allen, SF

Age 35-39

Gold 3:15:28 D. Hinshaw, HM Bay
Bronze 3:35:20 Twyla Willis, Fairfax.
Fourth 3:38:06 Linda Byrd, Pittsburg.

Age 40-44

Silver 4:09:15 S. Zimmerman, SF
Bronze 4:11:07 Paulette Cherney, SF

Age 50-59

Silver 4:39:37 M. Coffey, Pt Richmond

Men's Division

Age 19-29

Fourth 3:01:28 John Hickey, SF

Age 50-59

Silver 3:55:29 Bob Plantz, Sta Rosa
Bronze 3:58:29 Paul Newman, SF
Fifth 4:08:47 Bud Veliquette, SF

Age 60+

Silver 4:21:58 Tom Pait



Moon Bay, in 3:15:28.

In all, the team San Francisco Marathon team made an impressive showing with 36 finishers out of a total 219 finishers; 16 of these were in the top 100, and six of our women were in the top 10! Also joining us were 13 independent runners from throughout the Bay Area. Indeed, the entire field was quite impressive; there were marathoners from Australia, Canada, England, France, Germany, Holland, Israel, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the U.S.A.

Even more impressive, however, aside from the great camaraderie of the runners, was the constant support from the ever-wonderful volunteers

ringing the course and the spectators massed near the start/finish line. I have never run a marathon in which spectators spurred the runners on by lining the course for hundreds of yards creating a human wave with their hands as the runners ran through. It was absolutely glorious.

Even the weather cooperated somewhat, with a high, sheer cloud cover to ward off the bright sunshine and 90° temperatures, at least until two-thirds of the way into the race.

Ken Knutson and Penny O'Neil, our Celebration '90 Marathon co-chairs, need to be congratulated for a fine job in putting together a great

marathon (if only they could have come through with some of the fine San Francisco fog). The course was certainly scenic, well-marked and rung with caring volunteers.

Water stops (although seemingly too far spaced later in the race in the heat) were well-placed, staffed and supplied.

Distance runners in the Bay Area will be reuniting Sept. 23 for a 13-mile fun-run and picnic. If you are interested in joining or wish to be placed on our mailing list for our monthly distance fun-runs, please call Lois at 586-6013 or Dave at 626-1380.

Dave Studach is a Team San Francisco Marathon co-chair.

Wildly Successful

by Rick Thoman

The wildly successful Bay Area Racquetball Club (BARC), Team San Francisco's representatives in Gay Games III racquetball, brought home nearly half the medals awarded in that competition.

BARC's success and their supportive camaraderie made them the focus of the racquetball competition at the Games, and it may help install BARC leader Wref Fulton as the director of the proposed National Gay Racquetball Association.

"I was very pleased and proud of the club's performance at the Games," stated Fulton. "One of the things that helped us compete well and overcome the confusion in Vancouver was our support for one another. We've put in a lot of practice and playing together, which has helped us develop a feeling of family."

An Uneasy Feeling

One of the things BARC had to overcome was the lack of preparedness on the part of host Vancouver. Fulton had put on the Gay Games II racquetball competition in addition to several racquetball tournaments since then, and had offered his assistance to the Gay Games III organizers early on.

"The Vancouver organizers declined my offer to help," Fulton said. "I still had an uneasy feeling about

preparations, but I didn't want to come across as some pushy outsider telling them how to run their tournament."

Fulton's feeling came true as the team arrived in Vancouver and found out the organizers had never put on a tournament prior to the Games and didn't even play racquetball. They were unaware of how to classify or rank players and made many last-minute changes, much to the confusion of those competing.

In addition, the courts were in bad shape, with holes and cracks in the playing surfaces and no ventilation, which during Gay Games week turned the courts into saunas as Vancouver sweltered in the grips of a heat wave.

"I don't want to come across negatively, and in Vancouver's defense, I think they were overwhelmed by the task of putting on the Gay Games," said Fulton. "I just don't want to see the same thing happen at the next Games, which is why I'm trying to pull together the National Gay Racquetball Association."

Standard Rules

According to Fulton, the goals of the new organization would be to set standard rules and regulations by which all future tournaments would be governed, including the Gay Games. It would also establish a system of ranking play-

(Continued on page 42)

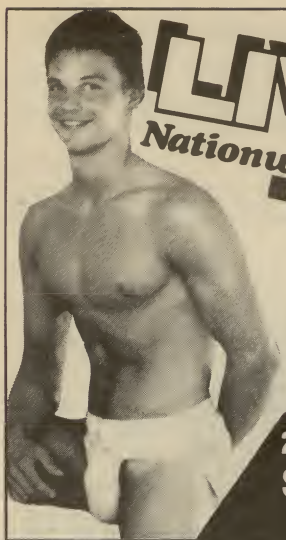
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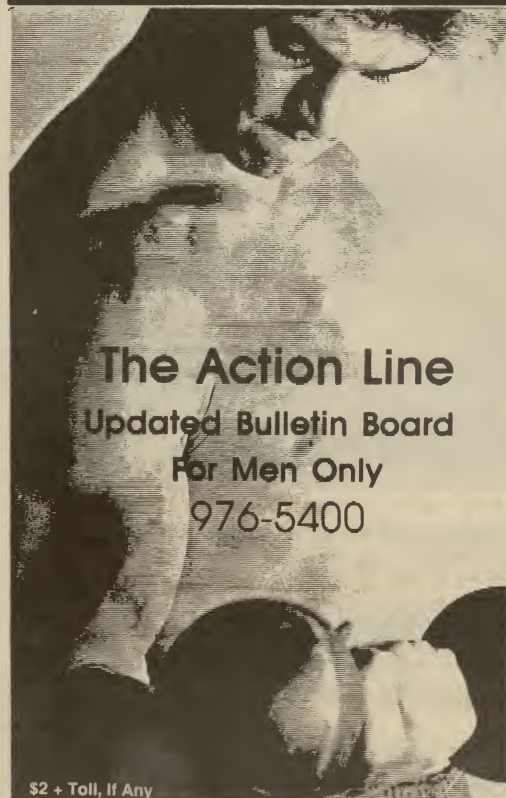
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BOWLING

Bowling From Here to San Jose

by Jerry R. De Young

Not only are the gay bowling leagues in San Francisco expanding at a healthy rate, but also the ones in San Jose. There the gay leagues are rapidly growing and wisely making the necessary adjustments to accommodate their increasing numbers.

One example of the vital San Jose scene is the re-emergence of the Just Friends Bowling League after an absence of several years. They'll begin their 1990/91 winter season at Fiesta Lanes Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m. On Sept. 12 at 9:15 p.m., the Sterling's Mixed Trios Bowling League will start their second winter season at the same bowling establishment.

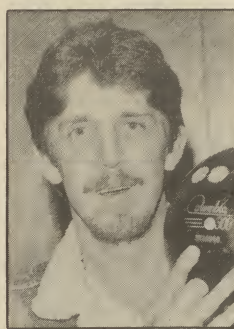
Anyone wishing to join either or both of these fun-oriented bowling leagues, contact Larry Jackson at (408) 993-0905 or John Games at (408) 297-0252. According to Larry and John, the single-house concept for the San Jose gay bowling leagues will not only facilitate better inter-league communication, it will also provide a mutually convenient location in which the leagues' officers can work together in the formulation of future tournament formats.

Drop the Worst

Speaking of future tournaments, the exciting Drop One Singles Tournament will be held Sept. 22 at Fiesta Lanes in San Jose. The balls will start rolling promptly at 1 p.m. (check-in time no later than 12:30 p.m.).

Each bowler will bowl four games, dropping the worst game. Tournament standing will then be based upon the remaining three-best-games total plus 80 percent of the difference between the bowler's entering average and 220.

The cost per bowler will be \$15 with one prize for every six entrants. For entry forms and/or further information,



Don McPherson

tion, phone John Games at the aforementioned number.

Records To Be Proud Of

Meanwhile, back in San Francisco, three gay leagues have finished the Tavern Guild Bowling Leagues' 50th anniversary season at Park Bowl with attendance and performance records to be very proud of. The other two TGBLs are nearing season's end with equally impressive records.

The 1990 summer season also marked the successful debut of the Golden Gate Invitational Scratch Bowling League (160 minimum scratch average required for membership). The GGISBL will meet on the second floor of Park Bowl on Sept. 25 at 7:30 p.m., at which time the cost per bowler and other league-related issues will be resolved. League bowling will start promptly at 9 p.m.

Contact Mal Garcia at 752-2366 regarding starting dates for other leagues, available individual and team spaces, or any other bowling league(s) information.

Here are the high rollers from the TGBLs. A couple highlights worth noting are: Larry McBroom, TGM Trios-BL, the only bowler to bowl all three games over 200; Brian Edmondson (125), TGTh-

ursBL, bowled a beautiful 201 game.

TGM Monday Trios BL, August 27, Week 20: Lew Cordaro (167) 242; David Arnold (192) 234; Chuck Webster (173) 233; Nathan Hauser (200) 227 (617); Peter Bassford (169) 225; Larry McBroom (179) 222, 212, 205 (639); Vince Dicolla (177) 222, 203; Richard Alaimo (175) 217, 202; Russ Beck (181) 216; Mark Depke (154) 216; Don Gambell (196) 211; Jeff Hines (154) 210, 211; Frank Rauch (175) 209; J. C. Halstead (181) 205; Jeff Hettmansperger (195) 204; Darrel Haven (179) 204; Tom Byers (179) 203; Petrina Leclair (154) 201; Don McPherson (145) 200.

TGM Monday BL, August 27, Week 22: Steve Hamm (169) 222; Peter Rudy (151) 222; Don Gambell (185) 216; Mark Schultz (161) 214; Rob Levi (174) 210; Mike Gold (166) 210; Ron Squires (171) 207; Don George (184) 205; Dan Sherman (158) 201.

Golden Gate Invitational Scratch BL, August 28, Week 12: Don Gambell (187) 249; Tim Benton (195) 200, 235 (613); David Arnold (197) 202, 225 (615); Chuck Adams (181) 225; J. C. Halstead (189) 219, 222 (612); Dan Burley (174) 214; Jim Hahn (185) 203; Hugh Smith (184) 203; Russ Beck (175) 203; Peter Bassford (169) 202.

TG Wednesday BL, August 29, Week 22: Jeff Hettmansperger (198) 247, 213 (636); J. C. Halstead (180) 238, 215 (637); Andre Lillas (174) 203, 231 (608); Tim Benton (190) 221 (601); Roger Asai (158) 216; Ken Sayles (183) 214; Hugh Smith (179) 212; Ron Squires (172) 208; Dave Lilly (179) 203; Bob Mack (196) 202; Pat Conlon (169) 202; Kevin Schwabe (197) 201; Don Gambell (197) 201; Hank Givan (175) 201.

TG Thursday BL, August 23, Week 22: Randy Peterson (185) 236, 247 (666); Ljubo Sliskovic (174) 234; Chuck Adams (186) 226; Don Gambell (195) 225, 202 (603); Hunter Bauman (184) 225; Ben De Dionisio (178) 220; Don Choy (156) 218; Dave Tangredi (202) 203, 211 (604); Hugh Smith (183) 210, 211; J. C. Halstead (182) 201, 202; Robert Montalvo (161) 202; Brian Edmondson (125) 201.

Park Bowl Tavern Guild Bowling Leagues Final 1990 Summer Season Team Standings

TGM Monday BL (Through August 27, Week 22)		
	W	L
Park Bowl	57 1/2	30 1/2
All American	57	31
Dan's Ladies	54	34
SPNESO	48	40
Lee-Bosley WYSIWYG	47 1/2	40 1/2
Rolo's	45 1/2	42 1/2
The Bowl Movements	39	49
Bench and Bar	37	51
Citerent Pin-ups	35 1/2	52 1/2

Golden Gate Invitational Scratch League (Through Aug. 28, week 12)		
Sap Suckers	158	58
David's B M	126 1/2	89 1/2
Scratch This	125	91
"X L S"	102	114
Cat Scratch Fever	95 1/2	120 1/2
Just the Mams Fact	88 1/2	127 1/2
E T Squared	82	134

TG Thursday BL (Through August 23, week 22)		
Bowlers w/	60 1/2	27 1/2
Arms Akimbo	58	30
Play With It Ltd.	54	34
In Need ...	52	36
Unknowns	50 1/2	37 1/2
Choyce Meat	49	39
Zelenka Ink Blotts	47 1/2	40 1/2
Trax	46	42
Park Bowl	42	46
Pendulum	41	47
Capricorn Coffees	36 1/2	51 1/2
Macho Sluts	31	57
Gutter Girls	16	72
Charmin Effect		

**What's That
Nasty
Mr. Marcus
Up To?
See B.A.R.
Bazaar**

Racquet

(Continued from page 41)

ers. Fulton collected names of individuals from 24 cities interested in developing and working in the association, including Gay Games IV host New York.

"One of the things the association would do is help cities across the nation host tourna-

ments," noted Fulton. "If we could get each city to host a tournament prior to 1994, it will give us a chance to compete with each other on a regular basis and help us rate players based on their tournament play."

Fulton also hopes some basic guidelines on registration for tournaments are developed. "Registering for the Games

(Continued on page 44)

Bay Area Racquetball Club Medalists Gay Games III

Carlos Iglesias	Gold	Men's 35+ Singles
Mary Tessier	Gold	Women's A Singles
Doug Litwin	Gold	Men's B Singles
Robert Weinand	Gold	Men's C Consolation Singles
Judy Talley	Gold	Women's B Consol. Singles
Mona Tong	Gold	Women's 35+ Consol. Singles
Mark Yee	Gold	Men's D Consolation Singles
Mona Tong	Gold	Women's Open/A Consol. Dbls
Carlos Iglesias & Mike Halan (Seattle)	Gold	Men's A Doubles
Dal Perio & Ken Kalani	Gold	Men's B Doubles
Dal Perio & Renee Johnson	Gold	Mixed Doubles
Michael Dawson & Robert Mandich (Seattle)	Gold	Men's C Doubles
Judy Talley & Lora Tell	Gold	Women's B Consol. Doubles
John Martin & Mark Yee	Gold	Men's C Consolation Doubles
Peter Rowland & William Boudreau	Silver	Men's A Doubles
Steve Cornet & David Bach	Silver	Men's C Doubles
Doug Litwin & Blake Spears	Silver	Men's B Consolation Doubles
Terry Rogers	Bronze	Women's 35+ Singles
Mary Kucel	Bronze	Women's B Singles
William Boudreau	Bronze	Men's B Singles
John Martin	Bronze	Men's D Singles
Mary Kucel	Bronze	Women's B Doubles
Terry Rogers & Mary Tessier	Bronze	Women's Open/A Doubles
Wref Fulton & Robert Weinand	Bronze	Men's C Doubles

Touching Ground

by Dianne Aaronson

It's hard to believe that something I had anticipated and worked toward for so long is actually over. For a while I felt like I was dangling at the end of a string with no solid ground beneath me. Still soaring from the sheer joy of the experience, I just couldn't get back down to earth.

Getting "back to reality" after an experience like the Vancouver Games is not too easy, especially with a little resistance. It is, therefore, a relief to have finally returned to myself.

I had a great time up there. The city is beautiful, the weather ideal, the contest was exciting, and I walked away with two medals.

The contest aftermath was very dreamlike. It seemed as if everyone in Vancouver must have attended the Physique show by the number of people who congratulated me on the street. I had to remind myself that 3,000 (seating capacity of the Orpheum Theatre) is a lot of people! I was a minor celebrity for a week, and it was all quite surreal. But let me back up a little.

Cloistered for the Contest

I left for Vancouver on a 6:30 a.m. flight with only two hours sleep. Many hours later my physique friends and I checked into our hotel and immediately walked down to the West End Community Center for registration.

We spent a lot of time checking out the restaurants along the way since we couldn't eat in any of them until after the contest. From there we returned to our hotel with just enough time for a quick shower, and then off we went to the opening ceremonies. Around 10 p.m. we finally left — the ceremonies still going strong, but all of us dead on our feet.

I spent the next few days cloistered. I was very focused on the contest. All I wanted to do was stay grounded, practice my posing with Neil (my mixed pairs partner), and get some sun. The temperatures were in the 90s, and we located Wreck Beach, the local nude beach near the University of British Columbia, which afforded us peace and quiet as well as the assurance of an even tan sans bikini line.

Our ritual was to get back into town after the beach for our 3 p.m. salad — we had found a place that served wonderful greens without oil, salt or any of the other stuff we couldn't eat at this point. It was the high point of our day.

Dining at Denny's

On Monday night after the weigh-in, my partner, his roommate and I went in search of a pasta dinner for purposes of carbing up. We scurried around for an hour or more, in and out of restaurants ("all booked up" with strict dress codes), getting hungrier by the minute. I'd had exquisite images of what this night's dinner might be like after all of the dieting we'd been subjected to.

Unfortunately, we ended up at Denny's, sitting in a Naugahyde booth, eating a very austere-looking green salad and pasta with marinara sauce reminiscent of Franco-

American. I tried in vain to recapture my waning sense of humor. I finally settled for a philosophical attitude, that and an exquisite bread pudding smothered in rum sauce. This we purchased from a local favorite, open-24-hours-a-day dessert place we had scoped out days before.

I hadn't had sugar in so long that I walked home feeling *very high!* Well, sugar is a drug, after all.

A Day to Remember

The contest was long. Pre-judging started at 9:30 a.m. Because I was in two events, I didn't get out of there until 4:30 p.m. for a brief walk back to my hotel room with friends who had driven up from Seattle to see me. This only gave me an hour before I had to return at 5:30 p.m. for the evening show.

The competition was stiff, the competitors friendly and mutually supportive of each other. And suddenly I was on stage receiving a silver in my



Dianne Aaronson in a back-stage pose at Gay Games III.

(Photo: Monique Racine)

weight class and then again with my partner receiving a gold in mixed pairs. This is a day I will remember for a long time.

I was thrilled to win. I also know that I did so because of the love and support that was being sent my way. My friends back home really made this possible.

Two friends had driven all

the way from their homes in San Diego to be with me that day. One had dreamed the week before that I'd gotten a gold medal and her girlfriend had taken a picture as I put it around her neck. And that's exactly what I did a week later as they came to congratulate me at the stage door.

I came home to a victory party that friends had planned for

me weeks before. I'd been thinking what a nice consolation prize this would be in case I didn't place.

But, of course, my friends had known that I'd come home with medals, and thanks to this "knowing," I did. Much gratitude, love and appreciation to my friends for their faith, love and support. It really made the difference. ▼

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Japan

(Continued from page 29)

homosexuals and Buddhists, the Jesuits were soon driven out.

Mythic Origin

Subsequent sections focus on the origin of homosexuality in Japan, the love of *chigo* or preadolescent boys by Buddhist monks, the love of *wakashu* or older adolescents by samurai warriors and the love of boys in theatre. Each of these sections is illustrated by stories from Japanese literature found by Jun'ichi (or Jun'chi — the name is spelled both ways in the text) Iwata and by drawings and scroll paintings which accompany the stories.

Iwata suggests a mythic origin to Japanese homosexuality predating the ninth century. This mythic origin is problematic, but in the ninth century, two influential Buddhist monks — Saicho (who founded Tendai Buddhism in Japan) and Kukai (who founded Shingon Buddhism) — appear to have brought an acceptance of loving boys to Japan from their studies in China. Saicho met an angelic boy, the *chigo* Daishi, while on a spiritual retreat on Mt. Hiei which started the legend of gods appearing in the form of beautiful boys.

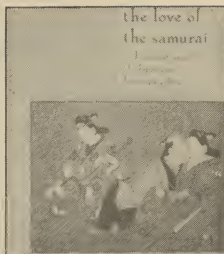
From the beginning of the 14th century, homosexual novels or *chigo monogatari* appear. Iwata cites one from a

manuscript in the temple of Daigo-ji. An old and highly venerated monk had one favorite boyfriend, but all he could manage was "to rub his arrow between two hills." The boy deplored this lack of penetration, so he called his servant, who worked his anus with his fingers, inserted an enormous *harikata* (dildo) and lubricated him with vegetable oil. Finally, the boy "warmed his pretty bottom over a brazier." Thanks to the *chigo*'s thoughtful preparation, his master finally succeeded in penetrating him without difficulty.

Youth Valued

Whereas Buddhist monks preferred angelic boys under the age of 13, the samurai loved adolescents between the ages of 13 and 20. In this *shudo* tradition, the young man was valued not only for his beauty but also for his military skills and courage. Iwata cites numerous stories and illustrations of this second form of Japanese homosexuality which was finally outlawed in the 18th century, not for moral reasons, but because the Shogun at the time disapproved of a mixing of higher and lower social classes. Samurai codes of behavior such as the *Hagakure* stress that the samurai should not verbally articulate their love until the moment of their death.

Finally, the Japanese had a tradition of boy prostitution which was connected to the theatrical tradition of boys playing female roles. The lot of



these male geishas — as is generally the case in institutions of prostitution — was not a very happy one.

Of particular beauty is a *shunga* or series of nine color plates from a homoerotic roll-painting. This painting by Choshun, dating from the beginning of the 18th century, is as sexually explicit as any porn magazine of today.

The Love of the Samurai concludes with an essay by Watanabe suggesting that an anti-androgyne complex, generated by industrial capitalism and a Japanese desire to be "modern," (i.e., "Western") is the basis of recent Japanese homophobia. This essay, while interesting, is the most speculative and problematic section of the book.

For me, and I suspect for most readers, the real treasures will be the illustrations and stories from the homosexual traditions of Japan's past. ▼

The Love of the Samurai
by Tsuneo Watanabe and Jun'ichi Iwata;
Gay Men's Press, \$19.95

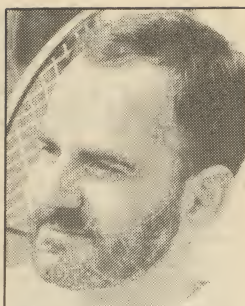
Racquet

(Continued on page 42)

was confusing compared to other tournaments we've participated in," he noted. "We'd also like to make a united appeal to limit the number of sports a person can enter at the Games. We had a lot of people sign up for multiple sports that never made it to the racquetball competition. This made a shambles of the schedule. There were gold medals issued to people who didn't even play a match."

Although Fulton admits he's taken on a massive responsibility in forming the National Gay Racquetball Association, he's passionate about the sport and feels in the long run it will be worth it.

"I saw San Francisco develop into the dominant force in gay racquetball at the '86 Games," commented Fulton. "We've gotten stronger since



Wref Fulton

then, and I think we can provide a foundation to help the sport grow across the country. I was overwhelmed by the enthusiastic reception our club got from the other participants, and there's a genuine interest out there to develop the sport on a national level."

For information on the Bay Area Racquetball Club's practice and playing schedule, call Fulton at (415) 626-7758. ▼

Sports Calendar

9th Annual Gay Sports Day on Angel Island

Sunday, Sept. 16: Everyone is invited to join the fun at no charge. Events include: running, hiking, volleyball, softball, cycling & football. Barbecue pits will be lit. Bring a dish to share for the potluck barbecue and bring your own beverages. Ferries depart from SF at 10:50 a.m. from Pier 49½ and from Tiburon at 10 a.m. For more info call Mike, 863-9987.

SF Slammers

Women's basketball practice Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood, Susan, 824-4697.

Men's Basketball

Practice on Sundays, 6-8 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood, Tony, 621-2710.

Tavern Guild Bowling League

For info call Mal, 752-2366.

SF Women's Business Bowling League

Sundays at 6 p.m. at Park Bowl, 1855 Haight, Ann, 337-6721.

Rock Climbers

For info call Chris, (209) 294-1527.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club

Tuesday & Friday practices at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 12:30 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels, ages and ethnicities welcome. Gary, 558-9195, or Gene, 821-2991.

SF Wrestling Club

All wrestling forms and styles, all ages and weights welcome. Call 538-8490 or 821-9721.

Bay Area Boxing Club

For info call Greg, 255-7361.

SF Women's Flag Football

For info call Michelle, 563-4722.

SF Trojans

For info call Bernard, 824-7048.

Volleyball Club

Sundays, 8 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels welcome. Mike, 626-4743.

Gay Volleyball

Sundays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., in the school yard at 18th St. & Deharo. All welcome, even beginners. Jay, 864-0267.

Gay Softball League

For info call Len, 864-3220.

Bay Area Racquetball Club

Sundays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at Schoeber's Athletic Club, South SF. All skill levels welcome. Wref, 626-7758.

Gay Tennis Federation

For info call Michael, 431-1721.

Birds of a Feather Badminton

Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at Mission High School and Tuesdays, 7-9:30 p.m., at Eureka Valley Rec. Center. Pat, 285-1743.

SF Spikes

Soccer practice on Tuesdays, 8 p.m., at West Sunset Soccer Fields, 40th Ave. & Ortega, and Thursdays, 8 p.m., at Moscone Field, Chestnut & Laguna. Carlo, 821-4248.

Tsunami Gay/Lesbian Swim Team

Sundays, 10-11:45 a.m., at SF Rec. & Park King Pool, 3rd St. & Carrol. Mondays, 7:30-9 p.m., Wednesdays, 6:15-7:30 p.m., Thursdays, 6:15-8 p.m., at SF Rec. & Park Hamilton Pool, Geary & Hamilton. Call 626-0561 or 255-9091.

SF Water Polo

Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 9-10:30 a.m., at Coffman Pool, Visitation & Hahn. Men & women of all skill levels welcome. John, 621-0783.

SF FrontRunners

Tuesday Fun Runs, 6:30 p.m., at Ferry Bldg, Embarcadero; no-host dinner follows. Thursday Fun Runs, 6:30 p.m., at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park; no-host dinner follows. Sunday Fun Runs, 10 a.m., location TBA. Rod, 621-2213.

EastBay FrontRunners

For info call Roz, 939-3579, or Greg, 865-6792.

Long Runners

For info call Dave, 626-1380.

Different Spokes Bicycle Club

Decide-and-Rides each Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m., at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park. All levels welcome. Weekly schedule, 282-1647. Write: PO Box 14711, SF 94114.

SF Hiking Club

For info call Clyde, 285-1260.

SF Track & Field Club

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., and Sundays, 10:30 a.m., at SF State University track, 1600 Holloway. All skill levels welcome. Rick, 626-8784.

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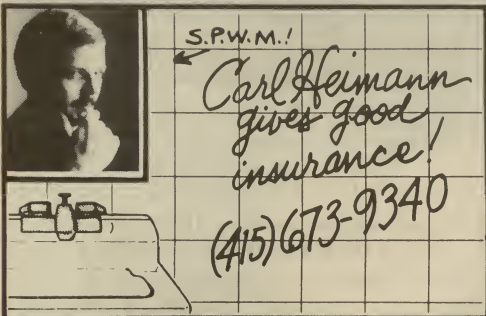
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9-14 Cory Iwatsu
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9-8-90
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Field Trip
Wolf Ticket

Salsa Samba Sunday 4 to 8
9-9-90
Montuno St. Salsa
Comedy Night Wednesday 9-11
9-12 Marga Gomez
Lank and Earl
Maureen Brownsey
Michael Uryga
Cocktail Party Thursday 9-11
Sept. 13
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Dana Devero
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Georgette Ballweg
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GRAND OPENING WEEKEND!

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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 7


- **I-Beam:** Jackson Saints, Liquid Jesus. 10 p.m. Free. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.
- **El Rio:** Happy hour 5-8 p.m. with DJ Cory Iwatsu. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. with DJ Carlos Grant. No cover. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **Club Q:** Dancing for women on Fridays. 9 p.m. Cover. At the Kennel Club/Box, 628 Divisadero/Hayes, SF.
- **Screw:** Crucial music, alternative space, beer bust, videos, bar dancers & confusion. DJs Mike & Lewis. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$2. 496 14th St./Guerrero, SF.
- **'The Legendary Hollywood Ladies':** Satirist in sequins Charles Pierce portrays the celluloid grand dames. Thru Sept. 9 at 8 p.m. \$20 w/two drink min. Plush Room, 940 Sutter, SF. 885-2800.
- **Over Our Heads:** The four-woman comedy improv group. 8 p.m., \$7-10, at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia, SF.
- **Mathis & Warwick in Concert:** Johnny and Dionne perform at the Concord Pavilion tonight at 8 p.m. \$18.50 gen., \$22.50 res. 762-BASS.
- **22nd International Tournee of Animation:** 18 diverse examples from 12 countries of the power and pleasure of animation. Sept. 7-20, plays at 1:30, 4:15, 7 & 9:30 p.m. Castro Theatre, Castro & Market, SF. 621-6120.
- **'Local 6 Concert':** Performances by an emerging generation of Bay Area theater & dance artists: Heidi Bekebrede, Cheryl Chaddick, Frank Everett, Catherine Sharpe, Kindra Walsh & Art Belly. Sept. 7 & 8 at 8:30 p.m. \$7. Footwork, 3221 22nd St./Mission, SF. 824-5044.
- **Wendy Rodgers Dance Company & Composer Peter Garland:** Premiere of *Stations of Light and Four Portraits of Revolutionary America*; also *Arroyo Seco I-VI*. Sept. 7 & 8 at 8:30 p.m. \$8-10. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., SF. 524-8254.
- **Roy:** A world premiere by Joel Ensana. Roy Cohn—perhaps one of the most despised & powerful American political figures of this century—lies dying of AIDS while denying his diagnosis & homosexuality. Sept. 8 Oct. 7 at 8 p.m. Sun. matinees Sept. 23, 30 & Oct. 7 at 3 p.m. \$9-15. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., SF. 861-5079.
- **The Space Between the Steps:** By Julie Regan, an intensely physical, visual & lyrical piece about two incestuous brothers testing the edge of a town that's falling down. Sept. 6-8 at 8:30 p.m. \$4-8. 1800 Square Feet, 719 Clementina/9th St., SF. 255-8510.
- **The Lady from Dubuque:** By Edward Albee, a weirdly searing satire of middle class life and death. Thru Sept. 29, plays Fri. & Sat. at 8 p.m. \$8-10. Cumberley Theatre, 4000 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto. 329-2623.
- **A Chorus Line:** The hit musical conceived by Michael Bennett, with music by Marvin Hamlisch and lyrics by Edward Kleban. Sept. 7-16, plays Thu.-Sun. at 8 p.m. \$8-12. Woodminster Amphitheater, Joaquin Miller Park, 3300 Joaquin Miller Rd., Oakland. 531-9597.
- **'Rumble in the Jungle':** A bill of three plays: Ishmael Reed's *Savage Wilds, Pt. II*, a satiric spoof of Marion Barry's adventures; Cecil Brown's *King Kong's Revenge*; and Joe Orton's *Ruffians on the Stair*. Thru Sept. 16, plays Fri. & Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 3:30 p.m. \$8-15. BMT Theatre, 3629 San Pablo Ave., Emeryville. 654-6172.
- **Harry Who?:** A musical revue celebrating the movie music songs of Harry Warren. Thru Sept. 8, plays Thu. & Fri. at 8 p.m., Sat. at 7 & 9:30 p.m. \$11-14. Hillbarn Theatre, 1285 E. Hillsdale Blvd., Foster City. 349-6411.
- **Lecture by Dread Scott:** The noted artist whose installation piece, "What Is The Proper Way To Display A Flag?" created a national controversy when displayed at the Art Institute of Chicago. 7:30 p.m. \$3-4. Eye Gallery, 1151 Mission, SF. 431-6911.
- **Holly Near Book Tour:** The singer-songwriter-activist will sign her new autobiography: 12:130 p.m. at Bridgeway Books, 901 Broadway, Oakland; 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia, SF; 6:30-8 p.m. at Modern Times Books, 968 Valencia, SF.

SATURDAY 8

- **Vivid:** Grand opening of SF's newest SoMa afterhours nightclub. Champagne, hors d'oeuvres & entertainment 9 p.m.-4 a.m. Located in the Big City Restaurant, 836 Mission/4th St., SF.
- **El Rio:** Papawheelie, Field Trip, Wolf Ticket. 10 p.m. \$5. 3158 Mission, SF. 861-9085.
- **I-Beam:** Sky Saxon Brontosaurus, Roy Loney, The Peckerwoods. 10 p.m. \$6. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.
- **'An Evening to Celebrate the August Moon':** The multimedia event includes an art exhibit, musical performances & a buffet of Asian foods to benefit the GAPA Community HIV Project. 7-10 p.m. \$20. Japanese Community and Cultural Center, 1840 Sutter, SF. Call 541-0237.
- **'A Festival of Acoustic Music':** Bread & Roses, which brings entertainment to a variety institutionalized people, presents Jackson Browne, John Lee Hooker & Boz Scaggs. 1-6 p.m. \$19.50 gen., \$30 res. UC Berkeley's Greek Theater. Call 642-9988.
- **A Different Light:** Steven Petrow reads from and discusses *Dancing Against Darkness*, his eloquent look at the faces of AIDS. 3:30 p.m. 489 Castro, SF.

- **Women's Friendship Group:** Meets at 3 p.m. at Cafe Commons, 3161 Mission, SF. GLOE, 626-7000.
- **Men Seeking Relationships:** Mixer/workshop with social hour following small discussion groups. 7:30 p.m. \$5. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. Partners Institute sponsors, 343-8541.
- **SF Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Committee:** Safety sub-committee meeting at 12 p.m. at 1519 Mission, SF. 864-3733.
- **Bay Area Coalition Against Operation 'Rescue':** Operation 'Rescue' plans to picket all Bay Area women's clinics this morning. Join BACAOR in providing pro-choice escorts past anti-abortion harassment at local clinics. 6:45 a.m.-12 p.m. Go to your local clinic or call 626-5510 for info.
- **Gay & Lesbian Sierrans:** Bike tour through the historic Presidio. Bring lunch, water, pump & helmet. Rain cancels. Meet at 10 a.m. at Presidio Gate, Lyon & Lombard, SF. Pete, 861-4045. Also monthly women's brunch (usually 20-30 women), 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Homemade dishes appreciated. 5618 Cabot St., Oakland (off Hwy 13). Joyce, 339-1834.
- **SF Hiking Club:** 7-mile hike at Barnabe Mountain, Samuel P. Taylor State Park, Marin. Bring lunch, water & warm clothes. Meet under big Safeway sign, Market & Dolores, SF, at 9:45 a.m. \$8 split among carpoolers.

HOT TIPS



PERFORMANCE
• **SOLO/MIO:** Festival of Solo Performance 1990: Ruven Hannach (above), in *Will It Pop?—A Trilogy for Late Night Neurotics*, asks: "On the seventh day, God rested, but couldn't he have devised the cure for AIDS instead?" Hannah combines elements of Commedia dell'Arte, European street theatre, mime, performance art, physical theatre, modern puppetry & clowning. Sept. 13-15 at 10:30 p.m. \$9. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St./Folsom, SF. 626-9196.

MUSIC & OPERA
• **150th Anniversary Tribute to P.I. Tchaikovsky:** The Russian Opera Company of SF presents a Russian opera retrospective: Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture and scenes from *Eugene Onegin*; Rachmaninoff's *Aleko*; and scenes from Borodin's *Prince Igor* and Rimsky-Korsakov's *The Tsar's Bride*. Sept. 9 at 2:30 p.m. \$8-15. Bar service & Russian foods served two hours before performance. Russian Center, 2460 Sutter/Divisadero, SF. Call 921-7631 or 755-7148.

VISUAL ART
• **'Messiah Well Hung':** DeJohn de Messiah presents paintings & sculptures by artist Thomasina DeMaio depicting the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Reception Sept. 7 at 7 p.m. On view thru Sept., 11 a.m.-2 a.m. daily. Land's End Sanctuary, 1548 California/Polk, SF. 673-9779.

VIDEO
• **'The Female Gays':** A parody of academic pedantry, *Dry Kisses Only* by Kaucyia Brooke & Jane Cottis explores the lesbian sub-plots in Hollywood films like *All About Eve*, *The Hunting*, and *The Killing of Sister George*. Also showing, Jane Cottis' *This Is Not A Very Blank Tape, Dear*. Sept. 13 at 7:30 p.m. Pacific Film Archive, University Art Museum, UC Berkeley, 2625 Durant. 642-1412.

FILM
• **Yvonne Rainer Retrospective:** The influential writer/filmmaker who deals with female roles & representations in society. Part I: Rainer's breakthrough first film, *Lives of Performers*, and her short, *Trio A*. She will attend a discussion following the screening. Sept. 9 at 8 p.m. \$3-5. SF Art Institute, 800 Chestnut, SF. Part II: Rainer's latest film, *Privilege*. Rainer will be at Sept. 11 screening. Sept. 11-13 at 7 & 9:15 p.m. \$4-5. Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., SF.

WEEK

SUNDAY 9

• **Castro Lions Beer Bust & Charity Auction at SF Eagle:** Leather Daddy II Tom Rogers will emcee a mini leather auction with musical entertainment by Leather Daddy VIII Don Thompson & Alan Smart. \$8 gets a yummy meal & lots of suds. 3 p.m. 12th St. & Harrison.

• **Rounds:** Cabaret music with singing hostess Cynthia Bythell featuring vocalist Katibelle Collins, pianist Lauren Mayer. 8 p.m. \$7 w/two drink min. 510 Larkin, SF. Reserv.: 441-4007.

• **Support Dana for Miss Gay SF:** Enjoy champagne, hors d'oeuvres, entertainment, door prizes, raffle. 5-9 p.m. \$5 donation. BJ's, 721 Lincoln, Corte Madera.

• **A Different Light:** Sexpert Suzie Bright reads from and discusses *Suzie Sexpert's Lesbian Sex World*, 3:30 p.m. Gay writers Bo Huston, Matias Viegner & Francisco X. Alarcon read from their works, 7:30 p.m. 489 Castro, SF. 431-0891.

• **Unitarian Gay & Lesbian Caucus Potluck:** Author Hunter Madsen, *After the Ball: How America Will Conquer Its Fear of Gays and Lesbians in the '90s*, is the guest speaker. Bring a dish to share. First Unitarian Church Chapel Room, 1187 Franklin, SF. 759-7255.

• **Men's Potluck Brunch:** Bring a dish to share. After brunch exhibit: bring your favorite campaign & message buttons mounted for easy display. 12-3 p.m. Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero, SF. 626-7000.

• **Lutherans Concerned/SF Annual Meeting:** Presentations on the theme: Toward a Common Lesbian & Gay Lutheran Agenda for the '90s. Eucharist followed by potluck, program & officers election. 6 p.m. Heritage Hall (below St. Mark's Lutheran), 1111 O'Farrell/Gough, SF. Bob, 864-0304.

• **SF Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Committee:** Board of Directors meeting, 2 p.m., at 1519 Mission, SF. General membership meeting for parade co-chairs election & 1991 board nominations. Photo ID required. Register at 4 p.m., meeting at 5 p.m. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St., SF. 864-3733.

• **SF Hiking Club:** Russian River canoe trip. Approx. all-day fee per canoe \$50 or \$5/hour. \$10 mileage plus \$2 bridge toll per car for 100-mile round trip shared among carpools. Call Andy, 584-7789.

• **Walk for AIDS:** Sign-up for the Sept. 16 10K (6.2 mile) pledge walk at Stanford University & Palo Alto to benefit services in Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Clara & Santa Cruz counties. Entertainment & picnic all day. Call 1-800-439-WALK.

MONDAY 10

• **Tom Ammiano for SF School Board:** Campaign kick-off party. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Cafe San Marcos, 2367 Market/Castro, SF. Call campaign hdqs., 1586 Market, 863-2889.

• **September 1990 - Skip A Lunch Celebrity Kick-Off:** Featuring a bevy of celebrities dedicated to Project Open Hand's first fundraiser: skip a lunch & donate monies to help feed men & women living with AIDS. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Justin Herman Plaza, Embarcadero.

• **Men's Drumming & Chanting:** Open to all men to experience the power of rhythm & chant. 7:30-9 p.m. \$5. Oberon Sounds, 584-B Castro/19th St., SF. For info or to register, call 1-800-4-OBERON.

• **Women's Outing to Coit Tower:** A day trip for older lesbians & friends. 11 a.m. Adm. \$2 (64+), \$3 gen. Call Pat at GLOE, 626-7000.



The Anniversary (imaged cropped) by photographer Rick Claymore from the SOFA Exhibition.

• **SOFA Exhibition:** An eclectic group of photographers who met in the dark; they share similar views & diverse imagery. (Included are images of the AIDS/ARC Vigil.) Reception today, 3-6 p.m. On view thru Sept. 23, daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. First Unitarian Church Gallery, 1187 Franklin, SF. 776-4580.



• **The 'Mind Salad' Workshop:** SF premiere using the healing of humor. Written and performed by comedian Doug Motel, his acclaimed one-man show uses lecture, guided visualization and various exercises to regain your sense of humor. Sept. 9, 23 & 30, 1-5 p.m. \$25, no one denied for lack of funds. Info & reserv., call 541-5072.

TUESDAY 11

• **La Val's Northside Subterranean Cabaret:** *Haiku Tunnel*, by Jeff Kornbluth (performer) with Dave Ford (director). Also *The Adventures of a Male Secretary*. Thru Sept. 26, plays Tue. & Wed. at 8 p.m. \$6. Dinner seating at 7 p.m. 1834 Euclid, Berkeley. 540-7743.

• **Radical Women:** Carolyn Quastler reviews Ana Castillo's new novel, *Sapogonia*. Dinner at 6:45 p.m. (\$5), meeting at 7:30 p.m. 523-A Valencia/16th St., SF. 864-1278.

• **'A Roll of the Dice':** Two stories told by, with music by, Charles Baker. Not just another tale of misdiagnosis & mistreatment. 8:15 p.m. \$7 donation to Project Inform. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF.

WEDNESDAY 12

• **El Rio:** Comics Marga Gomez, Lank & Earl, Maureen Brownsey, Michael Uryga. 9 p.m. \$5. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

• **'Broken':** On the consequences of receiving culture second-hand. D-L Alvarez's found/bought object constructions explore the eroticization of stereotypes—homeboys, punks, prisoners, etc. Cliff Hengst's charcoal drawings focuses on "straight" icons—power tools, guns, racing cars, etc. Reception today, 5:30-7:30 p.m. On view thru Oct. 13, Wed.-Sat., 12-5 p.m. The LAB, 1805 Divisadero, SF. 346-4063.

• **Federal Lesbians & Gays (FLAG):** Guest Alan Berube, author of *Coming Out Under Fire: The History of Gay Men and Women in WW II*. 6 p.m. \$2. Charpe's, 131 Gough, SF. 956-9174.

• **Older Writers Workshop:** For lesbians & gays over 50 of any experience level. 7-9 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. 626-7000.

• **Woman talk - Discussion Group for Older Lesbians:** Topic: "Feminism - Vital for Lesbians?" 2:15 p.m. North of Market Senior Center, 333 Turk, SF. 626-7000.

• **SF Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Committee:** Celebration sub-committee at 7 p.m. 864-3733.

• **Benefit Reception for Grace Cathedral's 'Day of Remembrance':** In honor of Rev. Alan Chalfant's AIDS/ARC ministry. Open wine & soda bar, door prizes. 5-7 p.m. \$10 donation. Cathedral's Gresham Hall, California & Taylor, SF.

THURSDAY 13

• **Cymbeline:** By Shakespeare. Berkeley Shakespeare Festival declined an important NEA grant because it refused to sign the odious "obscenity" clause; this performance attempts to compensate that loss. 7 p.m. John Hinkel Park, on Southhampton Rd. (off Arlington), Berkeley hills. Bring picnics, blankets, etc. For tix call 525-8844.

• **A Different Light:** Nine Muses Press, open forum in back patio. 7:30 p.m. 489 Castro, SF. 431-0891.

• **Women's Business Network:** Presents guests from Women's Initiative for Self-Employed Tradeswomen Inc., Business and Professional Women's Assn., live jazz, catered Italian cuisine. 6-9 p.m. Sliding scale fee. Lake Merritt Boathouse, Oakland. 530-1097.

• **Bay Area Coalition to Stop Operation Rescue:** Emergency Committee to Stop Souter sponsors a rally & picket at the Federal Bldg., 450 Golden Gate, SF, at 5:30 p.m., on the opening of Senate confirmation hearings on Bush's Supreme Court nominee. Call 626-5510.

• **Coming Home Hospice Bingo:** Every Thursday. Doors at 6 p.m., games at 7 p.m. Most Holy Redeemer Church basement, 100 Diamond, SF. 648-8508 (message).

• **Lambda Amateur Radio Club:** Gay/lesbian radio hams & friends meeting at 8 p.m. Call 863-1196.

• **SF Freedom Parade & Celebration Committee:** Medical sub-committee meeting at 7 p.m. Call 864-3733.

• **Men's Friendship Group:** Meets 2:45-4 p.m. at 711 Eddy, SF. 626-7000.

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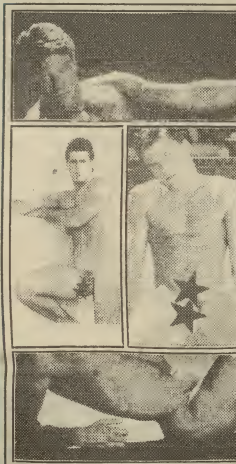
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by Joel Ensana
directed by
Ed Decker



Over at Ivy's

Bartender Joe Gage greets all with a smile at Ivy's.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Nestled among a growing group of art galleries and antique shops, Ivy's restaurant caters mainly to the symphony and opera crowd, as well as those who enjoy good food in a sophisticated atmosphere.

Situated at the corner of Gough and Hayes streets, Ivy's is the perfect place to eat before a performance. Executive Chef Rick Cunningham is responsible for the varied menu, and for the major change in food presentation that occurred nearly four years ago. According to manager Tim Hunt, what used to be "mom's home cooking," has turned into a delicate and in-

triguing blend of California cuisine.

The faux decorative motif is predominantly grey with blush accessories, in line with the latest in what designers consider to be a "minimal" look. Customers may remember that the old Ivy's was a bit on the plush side, which wouldn't wear well in 1990.

Ivy's is open for lunch every day except Saturday from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. with a menu that changes weekly, depending on seasonal delicacies. One might be tempted by the sauteed calamari and julienned vegetables in a spicy peanut coconut milk sauce as well as chicken or prawns with

their own special sauce.

On Sunday, brunch is served from 11 until 2:30 p.m. with offerings such as sourdough French toast with blackberry syrup and smoked salmon, poached eggs and creme fraiche on an onion-dill scone.

The dinner menu is varied, and includes lamb chops, calamari, game hen, New York steak, pasta and catch of the day (the only honest approach to those who enjoy fresh fish). Bon appetit!

Ivy's, 398 Hayes St., San Francisco, 626-3930. Open seven days a week, dinner from 5:30 p.m. Reservations are suggested. ▼



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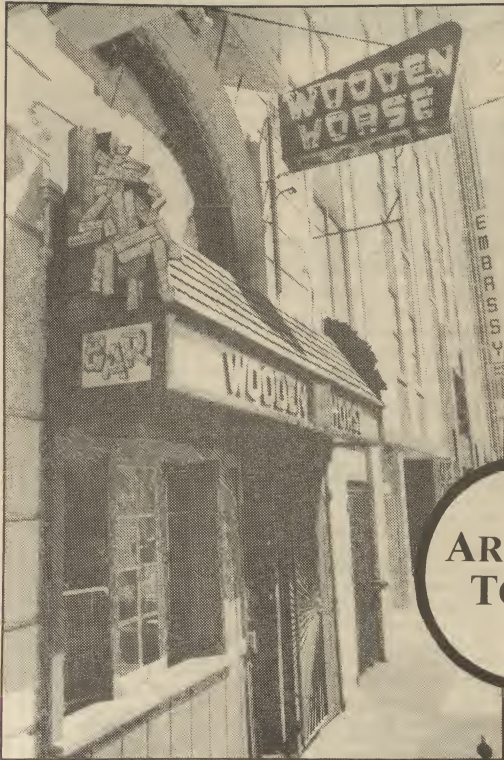
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AROUND TOWN

Bingo, Home Cooking At The Wooden Horse

You might walk right by the Wooden Horse on Polk Street if you weren't on the lookout for it. Across from the old California Hall, it must be one of the smallest bars in San Francisco. Although it only has seating for about 12 — and 30 people makes a crowd — this neighborhood establishment raised nearly \$8,000 last year to benefit AIDS organizations.

Carl Boysen and Roy Johns co-manage the Wooden Horse, which has been a gay bar for the last 14 years. Through its doors pass a mixed clientele, women and men, gay and non-gay. Night workers come in to have a drink in the morning after their shift, and groups of office people arrive after 5 p.m. for a cocktail before returning home.

Many of their customers are senior citizens who live nearby, and the bar staff tends to keep close contact with their regulars. If someone doesn't show up for a few days, there is concern. One of the bartenders will be sure to make a phone call, just checking to find out that all is well.

It's not surprising to find that these same customers support their favorite spot, which provides two fun events on a regular basis. Starting the first Friday in September, a \$3 din-

ner will be served, and on Saturdays from 4 to 7 p.m. they play Bingo.

When Bingo is on, 50 percent goes to an AIDS group, and 50 percent to the winner. Gary Liture, one of the bartenders, says: "We've had this bar so full of Bingo cards, you couldn't serve a drink!"

Dinner can consist of anything from stuffed peppers to Lobster Newburg, and is usually made by the staff with culinary contributions from their patrons. It gives everyone a chance to join in the fun, and sample some home-cooked cuisine.

All of the money raised by the Wooden Horse is meticulously accounted for, and presented at a Tavern Guild meeting by one of their staff. Along with western memorabilia on the walls are congratulatory letters from AIDS organizations attesting to the contributions this small bar has made. The spirit and energy that emanates from the Wooden Horse is testimony to this family of friends who have come together to make a difference in San Francisco.

The Wooden Horse, 622 Polk St., 771-8063. Featuring country and western music on alternate Fridays by Roger Zucchi and Jeff Terflinger. ▼

Call for Video Entries

Frameline is accepting tapes made by women for its second annual "Lesbian TV Pajama Party" to be held in mid-November in San Francisco. All subject matter is accepted on VHS or 3/4" formats. Tapes should be no more than 30 minutes in length; excerpts from longer works may be submitted. Selected works will be paid one dollar per minute.

Send tapes marked with name, address, phone number and running time along with a stamped addressed envelope for return to Frameline, PO Box 14792, San Francisco, CA 94110.

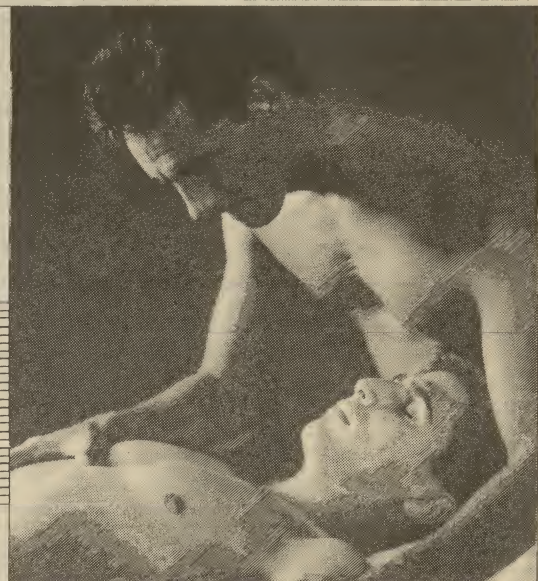
The deadline for entries is Sept. 22. For more information, contact Frameline at (415) 861-5245. ▼



The festive crowd at the Wooden Horse, above, and, left to right, bartender Gary "Miss Dementia" Liture with co-managers Carl Boysen and Roy Johns. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)



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Baskets O' Fun

A patron at the Colossus underwear party on Sept. 1 was having such a good time he had to pinch himself to be sure he wasn't dreaming.

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

Cherry

(Continued from page 34)

few women heroes in our culture ever do get the glory. Nonetheless, she is a hero to be admired.

She's the kind of hero who goes to sleep at night knowing she's lived fully and with integrity that day. Nor is Winterson afraid to show us her dark, dark underbelly. Her fears, her rage and at times her self-loathing all round out her heroic actions, creating a complex and most unforgettable character.

Winterson unravels an interesting literary knot with this novel. In the literary canon, it is usual for a male protagonist to walk through a landscape created for him by the novelist. All the other characters, especially the females, exist for him as part of that landscape.

With this book, Winterson reverses this all-too-familiar construction with great subtlety. Jordan seems to be the principal character. On closer inspection, however, his function in the novel is to draw attention to the strengths of the women in his life: his adopted mother, his lover and an ecology activist who is the hero he can never be.

Lesbian Sensibility

I truly enjoyed reading about three-quarters of the book. I was left a bit lukewarm near the end by the author's rehashing the points I'd felt she'd stated quite eloquently earlier. Lukewarm, but not a let down.

I was intrigued by the women's lack of interest in men; that none of the women expressed an active interest in women did not disturb me at all. I suppose there will be some readers who will be disappointed with the lack of overt lesbianism in the novel. I, for one, was pleased that Winterson did not try to rewrite *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*, and the strength of the women in this novel speaks far more of lesbian sensibility than most of the soft-core lesbian novels around. ▼

Privilege

(Continued from page 32)

nale it's doubly underlined — lest we hadn't noticed it — that all the despicable male stereotypes and endless female kvetchings have been a bit of a ruse, with all the players merely taking on extremely stylized parts and roles.

There's much in this film to console those who like to jeer at their lot. And of course men, who have ruled the roost for centuries, deserve a tad of oppression to fly back in their face. But certain men (and not a few artists) who are not avowed and devoted self-loathers might have a smidgen of trouble with being relentlessly and exclusively described and portrayed (despite the cop-out

ending's "excuses") as loafers and oafs and SCARs (Sexist-Classist-Agist-Racist).

The film is a paean to misandry — you remember? — the flip side of misogyny. Separatism rules here, with *Privilege* amounting to the cinematic equivalent of wearing a paper bag over one's head and blindly jabbing a finger at every masculine voice and aura. This is not to forget, however, that what the film ultimately endorses is the result of an understandable bitterness over the roles into which women have been forced throughout history. ▼

Privilege
Pacific Film Archive, Sept. 6
642-1124
Roxie Cinema, Sept. 11-13
863-1087

Angel Clare

(Continued from page 35)

folks, he's sorely misunderstood how distanced he keeps us from his not particularly likable characters.

The Neutering Chill

In *Memory of Angel Clare* goes a lap toward realizing reader sympathy with its next-to-last chapter, in which Clarence's clear-eyed view in the terminal stages puts many things in perspective. "Angel Clare" has a clear-eyed stance toward his own mortality that at least clues us into a celestial kind of Manhattanite insight: "Death could be a very natural, private event. But there were other people. It was the presence of other people that complicated dying. They all kept looking at Clarence, as if saying 'Live, live, live,' like a

Important Questions

Everyone remembers things which never happened. And it is common knowledge that people often forget things which did. Either we are all fantasists and liars or the past has nothing definite in it. I have heard people say we are shaped by our childhood.

pack of Auntie Mames."

Even Clarence realizes the selfishness of his "friends" self-aggrandizing mournful. Too bad he isn't around later to point out how dull and essentially narcissistic they are when supposedly mourning him. Michael is the center of attention throughout, yet Bram allows, perhaps chooses, that he never becomes more than a depthless, often irritating poseur of grief.

In *Memory of Angel Clare* carries its nearly 300 pages easily, offering muted wit and graceful prose that seems to be casually psychologically insightful. But it only plumbs the shallowest depths. This graceful novel is absorbed easily. But in the end it defines only a tiny personal terrarium of intellectual guilt; it carries the neutering chill of any novel that keeps all its characters at an unnaturally long arm's distance. ▼

But which one?

The answer to this and to many other questions are not found in *Sexing the Cherry*. What may be found are the questions, and too few books raise the important ones nowadays. Winterson's latest novel does, and so it is well worth reading for both enjoyment and for growth. ▼

Attn. Celebs

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—Bob Woolhouse

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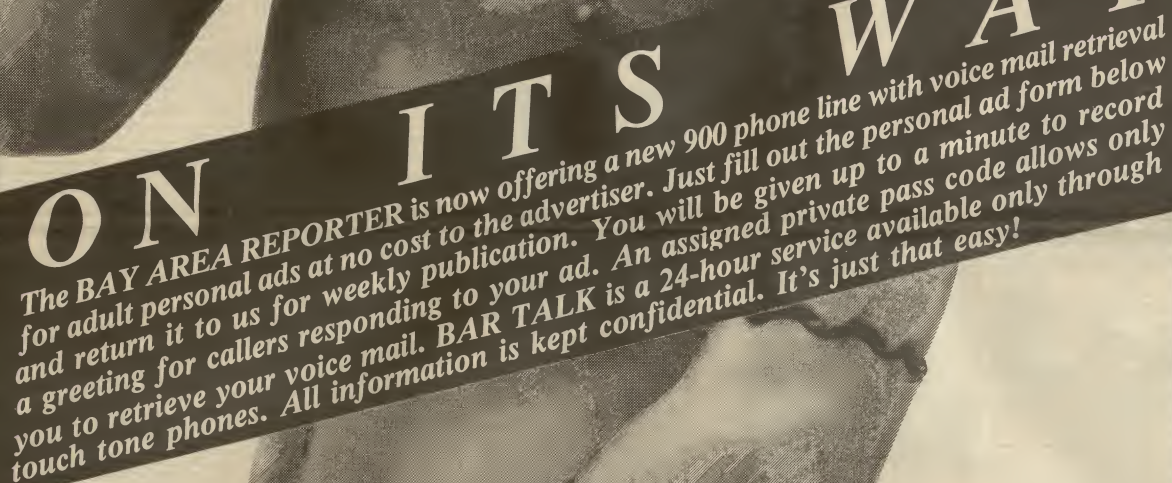
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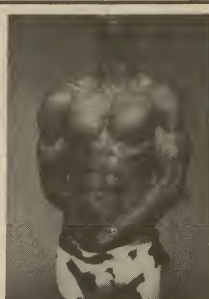
280lbs. GWM 40s, 6'1", Gdlk, vers, ws, seeks hot safe sex, daytime, any age, size, race. #120, 2966 Diamond, SF 94131. ^{E37}

Gdlkg wm, 5'11", vers., hry, 8", well-blt. Wants same, 776-7472. ^{E42}

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A lush, tension-reducing combination of Swedish/Esalen and Accupressure.
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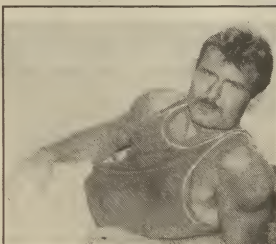
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Hdsm & Masculine Latino
Guy, 26, Smooth Swimmer's
Build, 5'7", 140lbs, delicious
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Let my hands relax
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When you need a
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6', 195, nude, erotic
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The Primal Touch
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\$40

Whether your goal is stress management, eliminating nagging aches and pains, or simply to feel great, I can help. Swedish • Deep Tissue • Sports-massage • Trigger Point • Cross Fiber • PNF Stretching • and more!

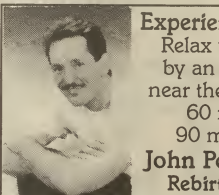
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100% PLEASURE
Rugged looks, 33, 6', 195,
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by an experienced professional
near the Castro — PWA's Welcome
60 min. \$30 • 2 hrs. \$60
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GREAT FOR SHY TYPES
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Strong hands, tan, athletic.
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Masterly Compleat Massage
By versatile, E. Bay CMT,
from strong to sensual.
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Given by a Real
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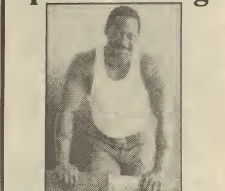
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in life and my full-body
erotic massage is no exception!
I'm a very defined,
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\$40 Kevin 864-1190 ^{E36}

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apply hot oil — total body —
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DIVINE HANDS!!!
— EAST BAY ECSTASY —
ROBERT CMT 832-7120

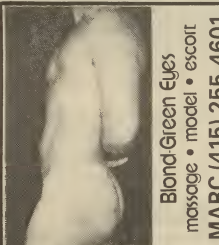
TOTALLY AWESOME
Gorgeous, hunky, hot, bisexual
Scandinavian, 33, 6', 195, tan,
looking for a few nice men to
massage naked. Hung.
Steve \$50 in, \$60 out, 24hr.,
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the new group-massage experience for sensuous men with Craig Bruce. Every Sunday at 7 pm. Arrive 6:30-7 pm. No reservations or experience necessary. Cost \$20, or 4 nights for \$50.

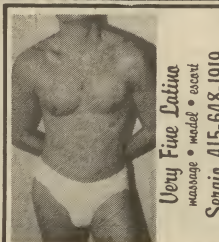
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B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

Massage

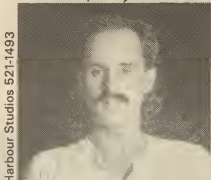
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...stress with ERIK FROM GERMANY. Quoted "THE BEST" by many, incl. doctors, chiropractors & psychologists. I'm 25, blond, friendly & V. handsome (no kidd'n). 1 hr. COMPLETE session on the only HEATED TABLE in S.F. Special lotion (not med. oil), unique style based on Swedish, Esalen & Sports massage. Near Japan Town. Parking! Optional Alpha Stimulation. 3 yrs. experience. 8-8 (exc. Thu) Only \$30. 399-2643

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Deep, satisfying, massage
Certified and discreet
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Wonderful & Sensuous



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SAN JOSE HUNK
6'1", 190, sexy, masc, gorgeous, hot bod. (408) 559-7524 E42

I'm an extremely handsome masseur with an incredible body. I have hands filled with strength, a heart filled with sensitivity and an intuitive nature to find out what feels the best.
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Acupressure/Esalen style. Firm sensual by athletic man. Steve 821-2985 \$35/hr E36

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Swedish
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Swedish, Acupressure, Solid Deep Tissue — Big Strong Hands for Experienced, Complete
BODYWORK
With You. I'll Adjust Depth/Pressure to Your Needs, with Love and Nurturance; Very Sensual, Non-Sexual.
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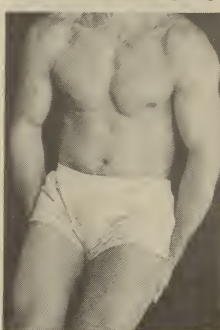
Sexy Blond
CALVIN KLEIN
Model, 26 yrs, 9", thick, round buns, rock-solid 864-0788 Ryan E36

The-butt & legs-of-life on-a-solid-muscular-hunk-with-rugged-hndsm-looks. Totally-masculine-626-7392. Rick E36

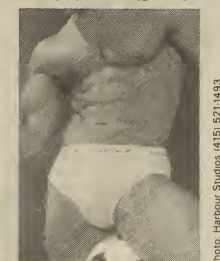
A butt you can fit in the palm of your hand on an extremely handsome tan gymnast with 1/2" nipples on massive pecs. 5'9", 155#, 8" c, 24 yrs., 864-0788, Steve \$80in/\$100out. Lv. msg. E36

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Incredible Legs
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Hot Yng Swimmer, 26, Lean Boyish. Call Dave 563-5637. E36

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New to San Fran. All-American Smooth, 24, 5'10", 165lb blond, blue eyed student. Private, friendly, in/out, 24 hrs. and massage, 252-1120, Craig. E36

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Distinctive
Light-Skinned, Sexy
Hot-looking • 24 hrs.
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S.F.'s Original Call Bear Beerbelly, Hairy, Bearded Daddy. Gentle Ben TLC or Grizzly Adams Ruff. 995-4754. E36

Playful, nude 8" Partyboy. Ed, 928-5826 \$60, Callback. E36

Young, smooth & slender.
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Dave 864-0670 E36

HANDSOME HISPANIC
10 1/2
Formal to funky.
Thomas 621-7777. Call back E36

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Bodybldr, 26 yrs, 5'9", 155#, 8" cut, a real hunk! Boyd 550-6833. E36

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24, 5'9", 150# swimmer/soccer player with solid legs, well-toned arms and pecs—HUNG 9 1/2"

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IN/OUT

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\$100 in/out, bpr 923-8700 E37

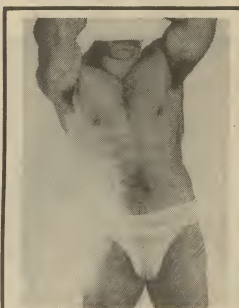
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BLACK BODY BLDR
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FOR GENTLEMEN AGE 35-70

When it's time to relax, unwind in my private apartment. Enjoy a glass of wine, a great massage and...? Perhaps a shower together afterwards? Quality pleasure at its best.
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175 lbs., 5'8 1/2", 46"C, 29"W
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Smooth Masculine Build
Mark, 489-1111, will travel eves & wknds or lv. mssge E36

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Hung and Hairy
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CALL BACK REQUIRED
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24 hrs Hotels Airport OK
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8 1/2" X-Thick Inches of Manhood needs spit-shine. \$60
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FRANCO 252-0775
5'9", 175, 45c, 30w, 8 uncult

Tan Blond 4 Hire. Smooth Top,
19yo., 979-4625, Jared \$100

VIDEO SUPERSTAR
JOEY STEFANO
MANDATES
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Very Tall, Very Handsome
Black and Smooth, 995-4798

BIG GUY

Gdkg, vers. student, 26, ex-
football player build (6'1", 235#,
48" c, 19" calf, 28" th). No BS.
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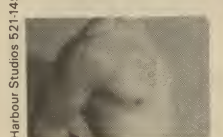
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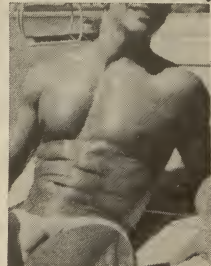
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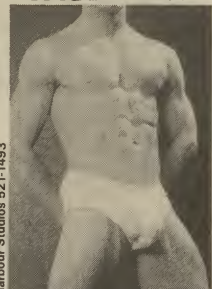
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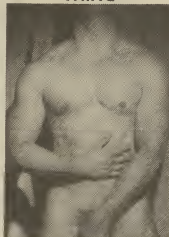
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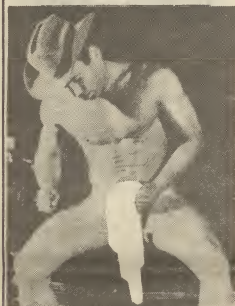
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B.A.R. BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS

Mark Sponseller Wins Leather Daddy's Boy Title

Eighteen men signed up for the Leather Daddy's Boy contest last Sunday, Sept. 2, at the SF-Eagle, but only 14 showed up for the competition. They ranged in age from 22 to 39 years and included an international gay clown, a law student, a caterer and a disco club entrepreneur. Each contestant was well-received by the overflow crowd and the AIDS Emergency Fund volunteers were hard-pressed to get through the tangle of bodies to serve the beer. Mr. SF Leather Ray Tilton was among the committee that cooked up some 350 hamburgers with the works and the judges looked somewhat dismayed when all 14 contestants were onstage with a myriad array of stories

of fund-raising, community volunteerism and leather experience. The judges were Mr. South of Market Ken Mueller, Mr. SF Drummer Joe Hollinger, Leather Daddy VIII Don Thompson, erotic artist Cirby, AEF activist Bill Fink and *Leather Journal* publisher Dave Rhodes. They all agreed it was a tough job. The contestants were obliged to sell raffle tickets at a buck apiece which garnered an extra five points for the most successful seller.

Emcees Danny Williams and Zach Long managed to extricate private and semi-private confessions from each contestant. Posteriors shaped like delicate plums to oblong shaped proportions were the order of the day. The photog-



29-year-old law student Mark Sponseller won the Leather Daddy's Boy contest over 13 other contestants last Sunday at the SF Eagle. (Photo: Marcus)

raphers had a field day. The contestants also answered questions from the judges and made three appearances onstage throughout the day.

Entertainment in the form of the Deep Throats (Brian and Danny) was sandwiched in between leather and art items during the auction. Almost every local leather title holder was obliged to auction or help auction off the items including South Bay Leather Daddy Al Jones, Mr. South Bay Drummer Steve Lesh and former Daddy's Boy Rick Rodriguez.

The AIDS Emergency Fund tallied close to \$8,000 from the efforts of all involved: \$1,800 from the contestants' sales of raffle tickets; \$1,200 from beer bust sales and the remainder from auction items! Good show!

It was almost 2000 when the winners were finally announced. The second runner-up was Michael Shugert; the first runner-up was Grant DuPont and Leather Daddy's Boy 1990 — Mark Sponseller. Outgoing Daddy's Boy David laid on the winning medals and handed over the trophy to his successor.

And what about the winner? (Continued on next page)



Leather Daddy's Boy 1990 Mark Sponseller, 1st runner-up Grant Dupont and 2nd runner-up Michael Shugert. (Photo: Marcus)



Some of the Daddy's Boy contestants at the Eagle last Sunday. (Photo: Marcus)

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Leather Daddy's Boy Mark Sponseller with Leather Daddy Don Thompson last Sunday at the Eagle. (Photo: Marcus)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

Well, he's lived in San Francisco just one month. He's 29, stands about six feet tall and weighs in around 160 lbs. He is currently studying law with an eye on specializing in civil rights and AIDS discrimination. He hails from Rockaway, New Jersey and did his undergraduate work at Rutgers University. He got his MBA from New York University in finance and computer science and has worked some 6½ years in budgeting and financial analyses. He candidly admits he's a novice in the leather community, but that doesn't seem to be an insurmountable issue when you consider how many leather daddies are willing to instruct him!

Mark got an extra five points for selling the most raffle tickets (280), but even if he hadn't sold the most, he would have won, garnering 157 points from the judges out of a possible 180. At least 20 points between him and the two runners-up. And this man has had his experience in fundraising and community activism. The entire leather community is looking forward to a good year. Our leather title holders are hard at work already and Mark has already expressed his enthusiasm to be as productive as his peers and his predecessors. All agree with the judges' choice.

This contest was the final major leather title for the year. The meaning of leather pride lives on and from where I'm standing, the rest of the year looks real good!

The other contestants were: Alan Kraus, Carl Garrard, James Kimbro, Barry Stoy, James E. Ryan, Larry J. Gist, Jr., David Lugo, Frederick Dyke, Bobby Harsha, Michael Blue and Dave Hempling.

★ ★ ★

Lots of our guys were out of town on weekend bike runs; over 500 showed up for the Satyr MC run at Badger Flats. Weather was good all over the state and the Cycle Runners MC attendees all gave it top notch ratings.

The Pegasus MOC (motorcycle owners club) had a good crowd for their maiden one-day run and another big crowd showed up for Tatiana's First Saturday show at Kim's.

The town was overrun with tourists from all over the country including two leather Spanish dudes from Barcelona

that certainly had heads turning all over South of Market. Even females cruising around the youth carnival in Civic Center over the weekend were in a swoon!

Lots of our guys travelled out of town — some as far away as Provincetown and Key West. The Prince de Topaz said PTown was flawless. And if anyone knows flawless, it's the Prince.

★ ★ ★

No sense in being bored or depressed in this post-Labor Day period. I realize that Sept.

23 is the last day of summer, but maybe some of the following activities will interest you:

Saturday, Sept. 8: Candidate for Supervisor Carole Migden opens her campaign headquarters this morning at 1590 Market St. (at Franklin) at 1000. Try to drop in and give her some support. Call 863-6300 if you need more info.

It's the annual Russian River Jazz Festival beginning today (and tomorrow) at Johnson's Beach. \$50 for both days or \$27 for individual performances.

Lots of leathermen at these events.



Larry "Larrise" Parsons

March 7, 1936-Sept. 1, 1990

Larry passed away at Kaiser hospital after a 3½-year battle with AIDS. He had lived in San Francisco and worked for Harper-Robertson for several years. Larry was an Airman First Class E4 in the US Air Force. He was born in Rome, New York, and graduated from the Westmoreland School.

Larry was a member of the SFGDI Club and was a Dame of the Order of the Garter on the Council of Emperesses. He was a man for all seasons and had a wardrobe for all occasions.

His pleasures ran from attending the opera and symphony to motorcycle club runs and appearing onstage in charity functions and partying with his devoted and caring friends, M.S.C.

He leaves behind his mother, Eros; sister, Sue; and three brothers, Ronald, Charles and Howard; and many, many friends. A high Mass will be held at St. Patrick's in New York.

In San Francisco, the memorial service will be Sept. 8, 11 a.m., at Most Holy Redeemer, 100 Diamond St. at 18th.

Donations may be sent in Larry's name to the Inter-Club Fund of SF, PO Box 1862, SF 94104. ▼

The XXII International Tournee of Animation opens at the Castro today with four showings beginning at 1330 with Academy Award nominees among the 18 or so films. Check for prices at 621-6120.

Tonight, the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) presents their Community HIV Project titled "An Evening to Celebrate the August Moon." It'll cost you \$20 at the door for a very esoteric buffet, an art exhibition and dance performances. It all begins at 1900 with a reception until 1930; the dinner is on until 2030; the show begins at 2000. Call Jack at 334-4747 for more details or to reserve.

Sunday, Sept. 9: The Castro Lions present a 'Mini Leather Auction' and beer bust today at the SF Eagle beginning at 1500. It'll cost you \$8 and that includes a 'delicious meal' (their words) with former Leather Daddy Tom Rodgers emceeding and current Leather Daddy Don Thompson entertaining. Call 861-0516 if you need anymore details.

If you know the way to San Jose, you might want to join Ms. South Bay Leather 'Connie Boy' at The Heat for a beer bust beginning at 1500 and they're having a 'Best Briefs' (underwear) contest for men and women until 1900. It's only \$5 and contestant winners get a gift certificate from Leather Masters and the runners-up get Heat T-shirts. There's also a door prize of a portrait of Madonna painted by Luis Guterrez. All this to raise money for Connie to finish her forthcoming film, *Mirel* — a presentation that defines the leather/SM lifestyle. Mr. South Bay Leather, John Howe, will assist of course. Monday, Sept. 10: Your favorite teacher/comedian and mine, Tom Ammiano kicks off his campaign for the SF Unified School District Board tonight at the Cafe San Marcos at 1730 until 1930. His campaign headquarters will be at 1560 Market and if you want to volunteer for Tom's campaign, call 863-2889. Tom deserves all of our support.

The 49ers kick off the regular NFL season tonight in New Orleans. Hopefully, they'll do better during the official season than they did in the exhibition games. Check your TV guide for listing.

SF Jacks present 'Leisure Night' at their usual location. I remind you that you must arrive between 1930 and 2030 to get in. Poppers are prohibited.

You must check *all* your clothes. BYOB in cans only. Suggested donation is \$6 but you will not be turned away for lack of funds. Call the Jerk Line (543-3433) if you need more instructions.

Other Important Dates:
Friday, Sept. 14: Opening party for Mark I. Chester's b&w photographic show at 1229 Folsom beginning at 2000. It's a \$5 donation, but I'm sure you'll agree it's well worth it. There will also be Psyko (?) drawings by Michael Goepferd in the foyer and in the toilet. The show runs until Oct. 21 but will be closed on Sun., Oct. 7. Needless to say, this one is not funded by the NEA, so your donations are appreciated.

Sept. 14-16: The Constantines run at Lake San Antonio begins this weekend. The theme: "And Now Another Word From Your Sponsor." The \$85 fee remains intact until Sept. 12.

Don't forget the reception for the 50 Australians due here for the Mr. Drummer Finals on Monday, Sept. 17 at the SF Eagle. I'll bring you all the details next week.

That should hold you for a while, but if you're a long-range planner, there's the Mr. Drummer Finals on two days this year, Sept. 21-22, and the



A nifty Daddy's Boy (non-contestant) samples one of the 350 hamburgers consumed at the Daddy's Boy contest last Sunday. (Photo: Marcus)

Folsom Street Fair, Sunday, Sept. 23.

Dish-Tinguished Ditties

Belated birthday greetings: last Thursday Christopher MacMillan celebrated his 21st with a nice crowd on hand — Christopher is one of the hottest (and nicest) members of the Trusted Servants MC. Friday night, Bob Schmidt

celebrated his birthday with a big party in the Eagle patio early in the evening. Who he? Well all the lighting, sound and other 'special effects' in the Eagle patio are due to the electrical expertise of Bob.

Reminder: when parking South of Market these days (and especially on weekend nights) it would be most prudent to lock your valuables in

your trunk. Anybody who leaves their leather sitting on the seats for all to see should be counselled relentlessly.

Hey, hope you had fun Labor Day weekend; there's lots more coming your way so stay tuned. And a big thanks to Alan Selby and Zach Long for a very profitable fundraiser last Sunday. And yeah, they were wearing leather! ▼

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The southern half of Mr. South of Market Ken Mueller. (Photo: Marcus)



'To Celebrate the August Moon'

A benefit for the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance Community HIV Project will take place on Saturday, Sept. 8, 7-10 p.m. at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center, 1840 Sutter St., San Francisco. The multi-media celebration will include an art exhibition, musical performances and a buffet menu of Asian foods for \$20 per person. For more information call 541-0237.

The Razor's Edge

(Continued from page 37)

than sex; this is apparent from her earrings, which are the size and style of Cafe Flore's iron gates.

Next, Sharon spends the night at Jacqueline's and they comfort each other by taking off their torn, tie-dye jeans and fucking madly. (Did I mention this is a bisexual video?)

There's some fancy cross-cutting back to Rick who applies red paint to his face. He has obviously been influenced by that scene in *Wild at Heart* in which Diane Ladd lipsticks her cheeks. This is quite clever, actually, and if only Rick had been a practicing artist in the mid-'80s, this is the sort of thing that could have earned him a substantial NEA grant.

In a sexy but unconnected fantasy sequence, vacant-looking Andrew Michaels lies back for Aaron Scott's ice-cube blow job.

Transformation Time

Back at the studio, Rick has transformed himself into Karen Dior (Van Gogh by day! Hollywood hooker by night!). He looks gorgeous in a wig but there's some serious misrepresentation going on here: the publicity claims he's a "bisexual transsexual." Rick is a transvestite, not a transsexual — as a surprised but lusty straight boy soon finds out.

Sharon, meanwhile, is having tea with a father and his teenage-seeming son. Maybe they're art buyers she met

through Rick? Whatever, dad seems pretty hip to her suggestion that they teach his gawky boy about sex.

This is where I really wondered who the audience for this tape is. *Painted* painfully misses a chance for a gay daddy/son fantasy here; instead, both guys gather 'round Sharon and take turns fucking her. She, like the black leather sofa suite, is treated rather shabbily.

But all ends happily. Rick, now Karen, invites his slutty girlfriend back to the studio. She surprises her by wearing Saran Wrap, which is probably still too nouvelle vagueish to have hit the Castro Street crowd in a big way. Rick cums; Sharon grins and pronounces, "Tomorrow, I want you to be Queen of England."

I don't understand what this means, but I have an uneasy feeling she's suggesting a sequel.

Hair-rating: Seven plucked groins; two razored butt-holes; one set semi-hairy balls; one total shave-down; one hairy chest; one moustache; one wig.

Mr. Smith, check it out. ▼

Painted
Released by: Bi-Tranz Productions/
In Hand Video
Directed by: Lawrence David
Cast: Karen Dior/Ricky Van, Jimmy Pike, Storm, Mistress Jacqueline, Sharon Kane, Andrew Michaels, Rick Lee, Aaron Scott, Sean Post

Artist

(Continued from page 30)

damage to Wojnarowicz. The artist had sued for one million dollars on each count; the judge granted only a "nominal" one dollar award.

One of Wojnarowicz's lawyers recently stated that he was "satisfied with the findings." He pointed out that all of the requested relief, except for the amount of the monetary award, was in fact granted. Wojnarowicz himself states that he obviously disagrees with the judge's conclusions. Both sides in the case hold open the possibility of an appeal, though at this time this seems unlikely.

New Suit Filed

Meanwhile, on Sept. 29, a new suit was filed in Washington, D.C., concerning Wojnarowicz's retrospective of artwork, currently showing at the Santa Monica Museum (and scheduled to appear soon in New York and Philadelphia). The Rutherford Institute, a right-wing fundamentalist organization in Los Angeles claims that the NEA violated the Constitutional separation of church and state in awarding a \$15,000 grant for Wojnarowicz's retrospective and the book-length catalogue, *Tongues of Flame*, which accompanies it. (This grant was awarded before John Frohnmayer became director of the NEA. Frohnmayer has since labeled Wojnarowicz's art as "offensive and disgusting.")

The Rutherford Institute's suit states that Wojnarowicz's writings and art convey "a message of hate and animosity toward institutionalized religion." It seeks to bar "funding, sponsoring and endorsing works which promote blasphemous and sacrilegious hate material."

Wojnarowicz has not yet seen the filing, however he notes that this is further evidence of the right wing enlisting tactics from the civil rights and activist movement for their own purposes.

With increasing numbers of artists and institutions being engulfed by the right-wing assault on homoerotic content in public artworks and freedom of expression generally, it's clear that this battle has not yet peaked. This issue may well help frame activist politics for many years. ▼

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Rituals

(Continued from page 34)

stick. ... Habitual interrupters may find the discipline of the talking stick hard at first, but certainly it can only improve their conversational skills, for the knack of patient listening is one of the best of social graces."

The talking stick can be anything from an ornamental stick to an ornamental 'goddess statuette, a rattle, a drum, a bowl, a knife (preferably sheathed), an ornament, a doll, or a stuffed animal.' She's serious. It should be "aesthetically attractive, nicely balanced for holding in the hand. ... It should be pleasing to the touch, because women like to play with a stick when they speak, turning it over in their hands, absently stroking it or fingering it." (A lot of men would enjoy this, too.)

Talking stick talk would be about ideas, goals, troubles, hopes or fears. "She" can say anything from dreams to poetry, anger or frustration. Listeners should wear an expression of sympathy and attention, and should refrain from criticizing what anyone chooses to say. It's like it's your birthday for a few minutes, and then you pass the stick.

If a woman feels she has nothing to say, she can pass the stick on. (Has this ever happened?) "When everyone has spoken as many times as she wishes, and the stick has gone around once in silence, then it is time to lay the talking stick aside and pass on to other observances." Like dinner.

Groups should be smaller than, say, 15, and large groups can be broken down in smaller circles, each with their own

stick. A class project or topic could be discussed this way and later be brought together by allowing the talking stick to go once around the whole.

There are many variations on this theme. "Once in a while, a group may include a compulsive talker who keeps the stick too long and chatters on until everyone else is virtually anesthetized with ennui. The only way to deal with this is to set time limits, with a clock or egg timer. However, such artificial restrictions are to be avoided unless there is no alternative." This is often preferable to sticking a rubber ball in her mouth.

Read "The Talking Stick" with friends at tea. The first thing you'll notice is that you interrupt each other — we all talk a million miles an hour in full-frontal, face-to-face monologues! (Except for the quiet ones.) As soon as you notice this, you are noticing Power. If Power interests you, read and teach this book. ▼

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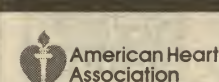
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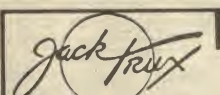
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